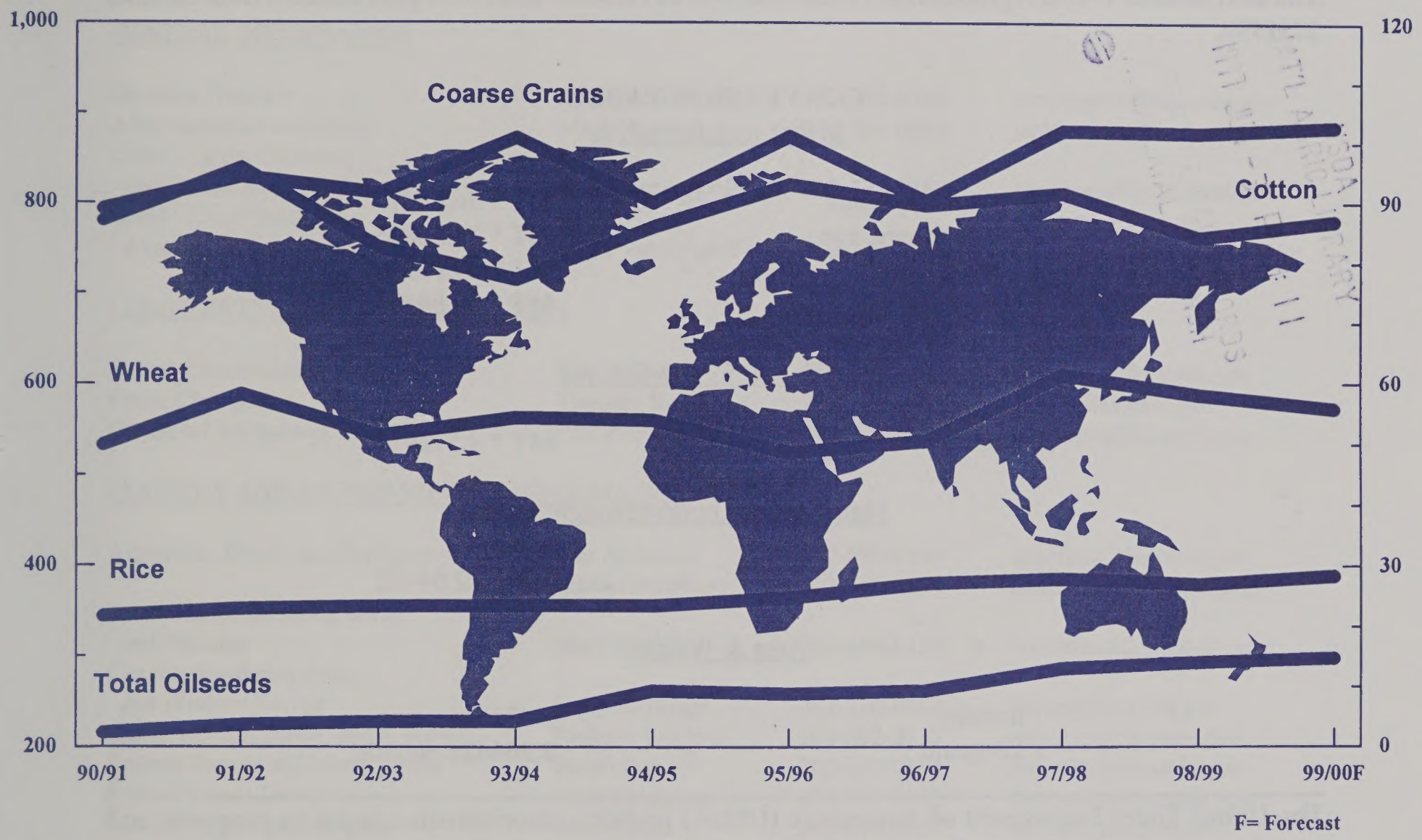
United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service
Circular Series
WAP 05-99
May 1999

World Agricultural Production

World Grains, Oilseeds and Cotton Production

Estimates for 1990/91-1999/00



F= Forecast

Included This Month: 1999/00 Forecasts

This month, USDA forecasts outyear (1999/00) wheat and coarse grain production for all countries. Only aggregate foreign and U.S. rice, total oilseeds, and cotton production are forecast. In July, individual foreign country production numbers will be released for these commodities. World 1999/00 wheat production is forecast down from 1998/99, primarily in the United States, China, EU-15, and Eastern Europe. However, wheat production is forecast higher than last year in Russia, India, Argentina, Australia, and Canada. World 1999/00 coarse grain production is forecast higher due to increases mainly in South Africa, Russia, China, and Argentina, while lower in the United States and EU-15. World 1999/00 rice production is forecast at a record level due to projected records in the United States and total foreign output. World oilseed production for 1999/00 is forecast higher. Larger plantings and favorable weather has been reported for foreign winter rapeseed. The copra and palm kernel production may increase as palm stands recover from the regional effects of low rainfall in 1997, but soybean production will likely be limited by low world soybean prices. World cotton production for 1999/00 is forecast up from 1998/99 as the U.S. recovers from last year's West-Texas drought. Preliminary forecasts suggest a slight drop in foreign production while the U.S.'s larger production more than offsets the drop in foreign output, pushing world production above 1998/99.

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board / USDA

This report uses information from the Foreign Agricultural Service's global network of agricultural attaches and counselors; official statistics of foreign governments and other foreign source materials; and the results of economic and satellite imagery analysis. Estimates of foreign area, yield, and production are from the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS and are reviewed by USDA's Inter-Agency Commodity Estimates Committees. Estimates of U.S. area, yield, and production are from the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Numbers within the report may not add to totals because of rounding. This report reflects official USDA estimates released in the World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates (WASDE-350), May 12, 1999.

This report was prepared by the Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS/USDA, AgStop 1045, Washington, D.C. 20250-1045. Further information may be obtained by writing to the division, by calling (202) 720-0888, or by FAX (202) 720-8880.

The next issue of World Agricultural Production will be released after 3:30 p.m. Eastern time on June 14, 1999.

CONVERSION TABLE

Metric tons to bushels

Wheat & soybeans	=	MT * 36.7437
Corn, sorghum, rye	=	MT * 39.36825
Barley	=	MT * 45.929625
Oats	=	MT * 68.894438

Metric tons to 480-lb bales

Cotton	=	MT * 4.592917

Metric tons to hundredweight

Rice	=	MT * 22.04622

Area & Weight

1 hectare	=	2.471044 acres
1 kilogram	=	2.204622 pounds

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Foreign Agricultural Service at http://www.fas.usda.gov
FAS Weekly Weather Maps at http://www.fas.usda.gov/pecad/weather/weekly.html
National Agricultural Statistics Service at http://www.usda.gov/nass
World Agricultural Outlook Board at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob
Economic Research Service at http://www.econ.ag.gov
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility at http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf

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PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1999/2000

May 1999

WHEAT

Country	Current Estimate (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Change from 1998/99	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	572.4	NA	NA	-3	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in the United States and the total-foreign category.
United States	61.1	NA	NA	-12	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in area and yield.
Total Foreign	511.3	NA	NA	–1	Production is forecast lower due mainly to reductions in the EU-15, Eastern Europe, and China.
Morocco	2.0	NA	NA	-55	Production is forecast lower for both area and yield. Planting conditions were poor due to above normal temperatures and below normal rainfall. Spring rainfall was sparse, eroding yield prospects.
Hungary	3.0	NA	NA	-40	Production is forecast lower as a wet fall limited winter wheat area.
Syria	2.5	NA	NA	-39	Production is forecast lower as area and yield are reduced by drought.
Iran	9.5	NA	NA	-21	Production is forecast lower due to unfavorable dry conditions, reducing yield potential.
Romania	4.5	NA	NA	-13	Production is forecast lower due to a reduction in area as unusually wet weather in the fall stalled plantings.
EU-15	95.1	NA	NA	-8	Production is forecast lower due to reduced area because of the higher set-aside and lower yield prospects in some countries, especially Spain.
Poland	9.0	NA	NA	-6	Production is forecast lower as yield returns to a more normal level.
China	106.0	NA	NA	-4	Production is forecast lower as a very dry fall and winter negatively affected germination. Spring rainfall in the eastern North China Plain has continued to be below normal.
Tunisia	2.0	NA	NA	+48	Production is forecast at a bumper level due to an increase in yield. Rainfall was generally favorable across the growing regions.

WHEAT, continued

Country	Current Estimate	Monthly Change	Monthly Change	Change from 1998/99	Comments
	------ 1999/00 -------				
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
Kazakstan	6.0	NA	NA	+28	Production is forecast higher due to a rebound in yield potential following last year's sever drought.
Russia	34.0	NA	NA	+26	Production is forecast higher due to increased area and a return to more-normal yield. Winter wheat prospects are guarded due to a very dry fall; however, soil moisture is adequate for spring wheat plantings.
Brazil	2.5	NA	NA	+14	Production is forecast up due to increased area based on higher domestic prices.
Argentina	12.0	NA	NA	+12	Production is forecast higher due to increased area and yield. The anticipation of relatively stronger prices than competing crops and normal planting conditions raised area potential.
India	71.5	NA	NA	+8	Production is forecast at a record level due to increases in area and yield. The crop benefitted from favorable weather throughout the growing season.
Pakistan	17.5	NA	NA	-6	Production is forecast down due to slight decreases in area and yield. Input use is reportedly lower this season.
Australia	22.0	NA	NA	+5	Production is forecast higher due to expected area and yield increases. Planting conditions are generally favorable.
Ukraine	15.5	NA	NA	+4	Production is forecast higher as favorable spring weather compensates for a dry fall. Area is similar to last season's level.
Mexico	3.3	NA	NA	+2	Production is forecast higher as an increase in area offsets a decrease in yield.
Canada	25.0	NA	NA	+2	Production is forecast higher as area is similar to last season. Yield is slightly higher than average due to a large area change from durum to spring wheat varieties.
Saudi Arabia	1.8	NA	NA	NC	Production is forecast unchanged due to a Government production quota.
Turkey	18.5	NA	NA	NC	Production is forecast similar to last season as an area increase offsets a slight decrease in yield prospects.

COARSE GRAINS

Country	Current Estimate (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Change from 1998/99	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	884.7	NA	NA	+1	Production is forecast higher as an increase in the total-foreign category more than offsets a decline in the United States.
United States	262.4	NA	NA	-3	Production is forecast lower due mainly to decreases in corn and barley. Corn area and yield are projected down this year.
Total Foreign	622.3	NA	NA	+3	Production is forecast higher due mainly to increases in China, South Africa, Argentina, Russia, and Ukraine.
Russia	28.9	NA	NA	+53	Production is forecast higher due to increases in barley, oats, rye, and corn crops that were drought-reduced last season.
South Africa	8.5	NA	NA	+32	Production is forecast higher as corn yield returns to an average level from 1998/99 drought reduced crop. Area increased slightly.
Ukraine	13.1	NA	NA	+25	Production is forecast higher due to increases mainly in barley and corn yields. Also, corn area is projected to rebound from last season's drought reduced level.
Romania	11.8	NA	NA	+16	Production is forecast higher as corn area is up from last season. A wet fall prevented some area from being planted to wheat. This area is expected to be planted to corn this spring.
Hungary	8.7	NA	NA	+14	Production is forecast up as corn area may be sown on fields that were too wet to plant with wheat, last fall.
Argentina	20.1	NA	NA	+10	Production is forecast higher as corn area is above last year's level. Yield is projected to be unchanged.
China	141.1	NA	NA	+4	Production is forecast higher as corn area and yield are up. Corn output is projected to be a record.
Mexico	25.1	NA	NA	+2	Production is forecast higher as an increase in corn area more than offsets a decrease in sorghum.
Brazil	33.9	NA	NA	+1	Production is forecast higher as corn area is increased and yield is near-average levels.
Turkey	10.6	NA	NA	+1	Production is forecast slightly higher due to an increase in corn yield potential. Barley output is forecast unchanged from last year.

COARSE GRAIN, continued

Country	Current Estimate (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Monthly Change (1999/00)	Change from 1998/99	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
Kazakstan	1.1	NA	NA	-20	Production is forecast down due to continued decrease in barley area.
Indonesia	5.8	NA	NA	-11	Production is forecast down due to lower corn area and yield.
Poland	15.9	NA	NA	-10	Production is forecast lower as crops return to a near-average yield.
Thailand	4.2	NA	NA	-7	Production is forecast lower due to an area decrease for corn.
Australia	7.9	NA	NA	-6	Production is forecast slightly lower due to decreases in barley and sorghum from 1998/99.
Canada	25.9	NA	NA	-2	Production is forecast lower due to decreases in barley, corn, rye, and oats. Oats area is down nearly 6 percent from last year.
EU-15	102.1	NA	NA	-2	Production is forecast down from last season as a decrease in barley area more than offsets an increase in corn yield.

RICE (MILLED BASED)

RICE (MILLED BASED) FORECAST FOR 1999/00: World production is forecast at a record 388.8 million tons, up 9.2 million or 2 percent form 1998/99. Foreign production for 1999/00 is forecast at a record 382.0 million tons, up 8.6 million or 2 percent from 1998/99. Rice production in the United States is forecast at a record 6.8 million, up 0.6 million or 10 percent from 1998/99.

OILSEEDS

OILSEEDS FORECAST FOR 1999/00: World oilseed production is forecast at a record 298.0 million tons, up 5.9 million or 2 percent from 1998/99. Foreign production for 1999/00 is forecast at 208.3 million tons, up 1.1 million or 1 percent from last year. Total oilseed production in the United States is forecast at a record 89.7 million tons, up 4.8 million or 6 percent from last year.

COTTON

COTTON FORECAST FOR 1999/00: World cotton production is forecast at 87.0 million bales, up 2.9 million or 3 percent from 1998/99. Total foreign production for 1999/00 is forecast at 69.0 million bales, down 1.2 million or 2 percent from 1998/99. United States production is forecast at 18.0 million bales, up 4.1 million or 29 percent from 1998/99 as west Texas is expected to recover from last year's drought.

PRODUCTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 1998/99

May 1999

WHEAT

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98 (1998/99)	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	588.0	+0.8	+0	-4	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	69.4	NC	NC	+3	No change this month.
Total Foreign	518.6	+0.8	+0	-4	Production is estimated higher due to increases mainly in Turkey and Algeria.
Turkey	18.5	+0.5	+3	+16	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in yield.

COARSE GRAINS

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98 (1998/99)	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	877.8	-0.4	-0	-0	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total foreign category.
United States	271.6	NC	NC	+4	No change this month.
Total Foreign	606.2	-0.4	-0	-2	Production is estimated lower as declines in corn output for Argentina and Zimbabwe and barley in Iran more than offset increases in sorghum output for Australia and corn for Indonesia and Greece.
Argentina	18.4	-0.5	-3	-26	Production is estimated lower due to a reduction in corn harvested area.
Zimbabwe	1.7	-0.4	-19	+4	Production is estimate lower based on a decrease in corn yield.

WORLD RICE (MILLED BASIS)

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	379.6	+1.2	+0	-2	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in the total foreign category.
United States	6.1	NC	NC	+3	No change this month.
Total Foreign	373.5	+1.2	+0	-2	Production is estimated higher as an increase in India more than offsets a decrease in Indonesia.
India	83.0	+2.0	+2	+1	Production is estimated at a record due to excellent weather throughout the growing season. Also, the recently harvested rabi crop is above average.
Indonesia	32.1	-0.9	-3	+5	Production is estimated down as the milling rate was revised lower to 0.632 for both this season and last year.

OILSEEDS

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	292.1	-1.1	-0	+2	Production is estimated down as a decrease in the total-foreign category more than offsets an increase in the United States.
United States	84.9	+0.3	+0	+2	Production is estimated higher due to an increase in cottonseed yield.
Total Foreign	207.2	-1.4	-1	+2	Production is estimated lower due to decreases in Argentina, India, and Paraguay.
Argentina	25.9	-0.6	-2	+0	Production is estimated down primarily due to frost that affected late maturing crops, and heavy rains on mature crops. The commodities reduced are soybeans, sunflowerseed, cottonseed, and peanuts.
India	25.9	-0.3	-1	+7	Production is estimated lower because of unfavorable weather for rapeseed in Uttar Pradesh.
Paraguay	3.4	-0.1	-3	+7	Production is estimated lower due to heavy rains at harvest, adversely affecting soybeans.

PALM OIL

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98	Comments
	MMT	MMT	(%)	(%)	
World	18.5	+0.6	+3	+8	Production is estimated higher due to increases in Indonesia and Malaysia.
Indonesia	5.8	+0.3	+5	+16	Production is estimated higher as trees planted 3 to 4 years ago are starting to produce.
Malaysia	8.9	+0.2	+2	+5	Production is estimated higher as output in the last two months has exceeded expectations.

COTTON

Country	Current Estimate (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Monthly Change (1998/99)	Change from 1997/98	Comments
	MBALES	MBALES	(%)	(%)	
World Total	84.1	-0.6	-1	-8	Production is estimated lower due to a decrease in the total-foreign category.
United States	13.9	+0.0	+0	-26	Production is estimated slightly higher due to a yield increase that offsets a slight drop in area. This is the smallest crop since 1989.
Total Foreign	70.2	-0.6	-1	-4	Production is estimated lower due to decreases in Argentina, Pakistan, and Australia.
Argentina	1.1	-0.3	-21	-19	Production is estimated down due to cool, wet weather in the main cotton producing states of Chaco and Formosa.
Pakistan	6.3	-0.2	-3	-12	Production is estimated lower based on reduced cotton arrivals at gins, resulting in lower-than-expected production.
Australia	3.1	-0.1	-3	+1	Production is estimated down due to lower yield resulting from insect infestation caused by the wetter than normal growing season.

TABLE 1

U.S. Crop Acreage, Yield, and Production

COMMODITY	Planted Area			Harvested Area			Yield			Production		
	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	Proj. 1999/00	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	Proj. 1999/00	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May
	--Million acres--			--Million acres--			--Bushels per acre--			--Million bushels--		
All Wheat	70.4	65.9	63.0	62.8	59.0	55.4	39.5	43.2	40.5	2,481	2,550	2,245
Winter	48.0	46.4	43.4	41.3	40.1	36.3	44.6	46.9	44.4	1,846	1,881	1,615
Other	22.4	19.5	19.6	21.5	18.9	19.1	29.5	35.4	33.0	635	669	630
Soybeans	70.0	72.4	73.1	69.1	70.8	72.0	38.9	38.9	40.0	2,689	2,757	2,880
Corn	79.5	80.2	78.2	72.7	72.6	71.6	126.7	134.4	131.8	9,207	9,761	9,445
Sorghum	10.1	9.6	8.8	9.2	7.7	7.7	69.2	67.3	69.0	634	520	530
Barley	6.7	6.3	5.3	6.2	5.9	4.8	58.1	60.1	60.6	360	352	292
Oats	5.1	4.9	4.7	2.8	2.8	2.7	59.5	60.4	59.6	167	167	160
							--Pounds per acre--			--Million CWT--		
Rice	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.3	3.6	5,897	5,669	5,831	183.0	188.1	207.0
										--Million 480-pound bales--		
All Cotton	13.9	13.4	13.9	13.4	10.7	13.0	673	625	665	18.8	13.9	18.0

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 2
World Crop Production Summary

Commodity	World	Total Foreign	North America			Europe			FSU-12	Asia					South America		Selected Other			All Others
			United States	Canada	Mexico	European Union	Oth. W. Europe	Eastern Europe		China	India	Indonesia	Pakistan	Thailand	Argentina	Brazil	Australia	South Africa	Turkey	
	---Million metric tons---																			
Wheat																				
1997/98	609.9	542.3	67.5	24.3	3.3	94.2	0.7	34.3	80.3	123.3	69.4	0.0	16.7	0.0	14.8	2.4	19.4	2.5	16.0	40.9
1998/99 prel.	588.0	518.6	69.4	24.4	3.5	103.6	2.2	34.1	56.2	110.0	65.9	0.0	18.7	0.0	10.8	2.2	21.0	1.5	18.5	46.0
1999/00 proj.																				
May	572.4	511.3	61.1	25.0	3.3	95.1	2.5	28.4	64.8	106.0	71.5	0.0	17.5	0.0	12.0	2.5	22.0	1.4	18.5	40.8
Coarse Grains																				
1997/98	880.2	619.8	260.4	25.1	22.8	109.3	2.4	58.6	67.9	114.7	31.0	5.7	1.9	3.9	24.7	31.2	9.5	8.0	10.0	93.3
1998/99 prel.	877.8	606.2	271.6	26.5	24.7	104.7	3.2	51.1	37.9	135.7	32.5	6.5	1.8	4.5	18.4	33.6	8.4	6.4	6.4	104.0
1999/00 proj.																				
May	884.7	622.3	262.4	25.9	25.1	102.2	3.1	51.1	50.6	141.1	33.5	5.8	1.8	4.2	20.1	33.9	7.9	8.5	10.6	97.0
Rice (Milled)																				
1997/98	385.4	379.4	6.0	0.0	0.3	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.8	140.5	82.3	30.6	4.3	15.0	0.7	5.8	1.0	0.0	0.2	96.0
1998/99 prel.	379.6	373.4	6.1	0.0	0.3	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.8	133.0	83.0	32.1	4.7	14.3	1.0	7.7	1.0	0.0	0.2	93.7
1999/00 proj.																				
May	388.8	382.0	6.8																	
Total Grains 1/																				
1997/98	1875.5	1541.6	333.9	49.4	26.3	205.3	3.1	92.9	149.0	378.4	182.6	36.3	22.8	18.9	40.1	39.4	29.8	10.5	26.3	230.2
1998/99 prel.	1845.3	1498.2	347.1	50.9	28.5	209.9	5.4	85.3	95.0	378.7	181.4	38.6	25.2	18.8	30.1	43.5	30.4	7.9	25.1	243.7
1999/00 proj.																				
May	1845.8	1515.6	330.3																	
Oilseeds 2/																				
1996/97	262.0	187.2	74.8	7.3	0.5	13.0	0.1	4.7	8.5	41.4	27.3	2.5	3.7	0.5	17.5	28.0	1.8	0.8	1.9	27.9
1997/98 prel.	286.0	202.9	83.1	9.2	0.7	15.0	0.1	4.2	9.0	43.4	24.2	2.3	3.7	0.5	25.8	32.4	2.0	0.9	2.0	27.5
1998/99 proj.																				
Apr.	293.2	208.6	84.6	10.4	0.6	15.5	0.1	5.3	9.0	42.7	26.2	2.3	3.4	0.5	26.5	31.9	3.0	1.3	2.1	27.7
May	292.1	207.2	84.9	10.4	0.6	15.5	0.1	5.4	8.9	42.7	25.9	2.2	3.3	0.5	25.9	31.9	3.0	1.3	2.1	27.4
Cotton																				
1996/97	89.6	70.6	18.9	0.0	1.1	1.9	0.0	0.0	6.6	19.3	13.9	0.0	7.3	0.0	1.5	1.3	2.8	0.2	3.6	11.1
1997/98 prel.	91.6	72.8	18.8	0.0	1.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	7.2	21.1	12.3	0.0	7.2	0.0	1.4	1.8	3.1	0.2	3.7	11.8
1998/99 proj.																				
Apr.	84.7	70.8	13.9	0.0	1.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	6.6	20.2	12.9	0.0	6.5	0.0	1.4	1.9	3.2	0.2	3.9	10.7
May	84.1	70.2	13.9	0.0	1.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	6.6	20.2	12.9	0.0	6.3	0.0	1.1	1.9	3.1	0.2	3.9	10.6

1/ Includes wheat, coarse grains, and rice (milled) shown above.
2/ Includes soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, rapeseed for individual countries. Copra and palm kernel are added to world totals.
Note: Entries of 0.0 indicate no reported or insignificant production.

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 3

Wheat Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		
	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	228.28	224.92	220.02	2.67	2.61	2.60	609.88	587.96	572.39	-15.57	-2.65
United States	25.43	23.88	22.42	2.66	2.91	2.73	67.53	69.41	61.09	-8.32	-11.98
Total Foreign	202.85	201.04	197.61	2.67	2.58	2.59	542.34	518.55	511.30	-7.25	-1.40
Major Exporters	44.55	44.19	43.95	3.43	3.61	3.51	152.68	159.71	154.07	-5.64	-3.53
European Union	17.13	17.06	16.25	5.50	6.07	5.85	94.18	103.56	95.07	-8.49	-8.20
France	5.11	5.25	5.20	6.61	7.66	7.21	33.76	40.20	37.50	-2.70	-6.72
United Kingdom	2.04	2.05	1.80	7.38	7.55	7.78	15.02	15.43	14.00	-1.43	-9.28
Germany	2.72	2.79	2.60	7.29	7.21	7.31	19.83	20.13	19.00	-1.13	-5.60
Canada	11.41	10.77	10.80	2.13	2.27	2.31	24.28	24.40	25.00	0.60	2.46
Australia	10.31	11.58	11.70	1.88	1.81	1.88	19.42	21.00	22.00	1.00	4.76
Argentina	5.70	4.77	5.20	2.60	2.25	2.31	14.80	10.75	12.00	1.25	11.63
Major Importers	93.82	90.20	87.38	2.67	2.38	2.42	250.05	214.55	211.46	-3.09	-1.44
China	30.06	29.80	29.80	4.10	3.69	3.56	123.30	110.00	106.00	-4.00	-3.64
FSU-12	48.28	44.68	44.00	1.66	1.26	1.47	80.31	56.24	64.83	8.59	15.28
Russia	26.10	26.00	25.00	1.69	1.03	1.36	44.20	26.90	34.00	7.10	26.39
Ukraine	6.51	5.64	5.70	2.83	2.65	2.72	18.40	14.94	15.50	0.56	3.77
Kazakstan	11.50	9.10	9.50	0.78	0.52	0.63	8.95	4.70	6.00	1.30	27.66
Baltic States	0.57	0.58	0.58	2.69	2.61	2.61	1.55	1.50	1.50	0.00	0.00
Eastern Europe	9.86	9.60	8.12	3.48	3.55	3.50	34.35	34.12	28.43	-5.69	-16.68
Poland	2.56	2.63	2.57	3.21	3.62	3.50	8.19	9.54	9.00	-0.54	-5.63
Romania	2.35	2.00	1.60	3.06	2.60	2.81	7.19	5.20	4.50	-0.70	-13.46
Egypt	1.04	1.02	1.03	5.60	5.99	6.02	5.85	6.09	6.20	0.11	1.76
Morocco	2.49	3.10	2.30	0.93	1.42	0.87	2.32	4.40	2.00	-2.40	-54.55
Brazil	1.51	1.43	1.55	1.58	1.54	1.61	2.38	2.20	2.50	0.30	13.64
Other Foreign	64.47	66.65	66.29	2.17	2.16	2.20	139.61	144.29	145.77	1.48	1.03
India	25.89	26.69	26.80	2.68	2.47	2.67	69.35	65.91	71.50	5.59	8.49
Turkey	8.50	8.55	8.65	1.88	2.16	2.14	16.00	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00
Pakistan	8.11	8.36	8.30	2.05	2.24	2.11	16.65	18.70	17.50	-1.20	-6.42
Mexico	0.80	0.77	0.80	4.54	4.22	4.13	3.64	3.25	3.30	0.05	1.54
Saudi Arabia	0.34	0.34	0.34	5.36	5.37	5.37	1.80	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00
South Africa	1.39	0.75	0.75	1.77	2.04	1.87	2.47	1.53	1.40	-0.13	-8.50
Others	19.45	21.20	20.65	1.53	1.63	1.54	29.71	34.60	31.77	-2.83	-8.18

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 4

Total Coarse Grain Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		
	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May		From last year
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons				MMT Percent
World	309.82	306.22	303.51	2.84	2.87	2.91	880.21	877.75	884.68		6.93 0.79
United States	36.89	36.17	35.33	7.06	7.51	7.43	260.43	271.55	262.38		-9.17 -3.38
Total Foreign	272.93	270.05	268.18	2.27	2.24	2.32	619.79	606.20	622.31		16.10 2.66
Major Exporters	22.53	21.34	21.41	3.16	3.01	3.11	71.19	64.17	66.53		2.37 3.69
Canada	7.59	7.38	7.31	3.31	3.59	3.54	25.12	26.50	25.85		-0.65 -2.44
Argentina	4.67	4.15	4.54	5.28	4.43	4.44	24.67	18.35	20.12		1.77 9.65
Australia	5.09	4.53	4.28	1.86	1.85	1.85	9.47	8.41	7.91		-0.50 -5.97
South Africa	3.94	3.83	3.93	2.04	1.67	2.15	8.04	6.41	8.46		2.05 31.89
Thailand	1.24	1.45	1.36	3.15	3.10	3.09	3.90	4.50	4.20		-0.30 -6.67
Major Importers	86.52	80.94	79.64	3.04	2.75	2.93	263.02	222.85	233.38		10.53 4.73
FSU-12	38.83	33.56	33.45	1.75	1.13	1.51	67.90	37.94	50.62		12.68 33.42
Russia	25.19	22.10	22.30	1.62	0.86	1.30	40.85	18.95	28.90		9.95 52.51
Ukraine	6.50	5.92	6.30	2.38	1.76	2.07	15.46	10.45	13.05		2.60 24.88
Kazakstan	3.67	2.14	1.45	0.79	0.63	0.74	2.91	1.34	1.07		-0.27 -20.15
Baltic States	1.23	1.23	1.23	2.25	2.24	2.24	2.77	2.76	2.76		0.00 0.00
European Union	20.45	19.96	18.76	5.35	5.24	5.45	109.33	104.67	102.15		-2.52 -2.40
Germany	4.30	4.24	4.12	5.97	5.75	5.92	25.66	24.39	24.40		0.01 0.05
France	3.99	3.86	3.79	7.32	7.24	7.24	29.21	27.92	27.43		-0.49 -1.75
Eastern Europe	16.39	16.11	15.93	3.57	3.17	3.21	58.56	51.10	51.12		0.02 0.04
Poland	6.34	6.21	5.89	2.71	2.84	2.70	17.21	17.61	15.93		-1.68 -9.53
Romania	3.88	3.80	4.03	3.86	2.67	2.94	14.95	10.16	11.83		1.68 16.49
Czech Rep.	0.84	0.76	0.80	3.79	3.54	3.83	3.19	2.68	3.07		0.39 14.58
Mexico	9.24	9.73	9.92	2.46	2.54	2.53	22.76	24.70	25.08		0.38 1.52
Other W. Europe	0.37	0.35	0.35	4.58	4.78	4.65	1.70	1.67	1.65		-0.03 -1.61
Other Foreign	163.89	167.77	167.13	1.74	1.90	1.93	285.58	319.19	322.40		3.21 1.00
China	28.05	28.50	29.00	4.09	4.76	4.87	114.65	135.65	141.10		5.45 4.02
India	31.02	31.75	31.45	1.00	1.02	1.07	30.95	32.47	33.50		1.03 3.18
Brazil	12.06	12.67	12.96	2.59	2.65	2.62	31.21	33.61	33.94		0.33 0.97
Turkey	4.69	4.63	4.65	2.14	2.26	2.28	10.05	10.48	10.62		0.14 1.32
Indonesia	2.90	3.20	2.90	1.97	2.03	2.00	5.70	6.50	5.80		-0.70 -10.77
Philippines	2.37	2.78	2.60	1.49	1.73	1.62	3.53	4.80	4.20		-0.60 -12.50
Others	82.80	84.25	83.57	1.08	1.14	1.12	89.49	95.68	93.25		-2.44 -2.55

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 5
Corn Area, Yield, and Production
World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production			
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.			From last year	
	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons						
World	135.25	136.91	139.08	4.24	4.33	4.32	573.60	592.28	601.49			9.21	1.55
United States	29.41	29.38	28.99	7.95	8.44	8.27	233.86	247.94	239.91			-8.03	-3.24
Total Foreign	105.84	107.53	110.08	3.21	3.20	3.28	339.74	344.34	361.58			17.24	5.01
Major Exporters	7.21	6.99	7.30	4.24	3.48	3.77	30.60	24.30	27.50			3.20	13.17
Argentina	3.18	2.80	3.10	6.10	5.00	5.00	19.36	14.00	15.50			1.50	10.71
South Africa	2.96	2.90	3.00	2.55	2.07	2.67	7.54	6.00	8.00			2.00	33.33
Thailand	1.08	1.29	1.20	3.43	3.33	3.33	3.70	4.30	4.00			-0.30	-6.98
Major Importers	21.43	21.03	21.87	4.60	3.96	4.11	98.60	83.17	89.82			6.65	8.00
Eastern Europe	6.91	6.90	7.01	4.62	3.69	3.82	31.94	25.43	26.76			1.32	5.20
Romania	3.03	3.00	3.20	4.18	2.83	3.13	12.68	8.50	10.00			1.50	17.65
Yugoslavia	2.12	2.12	1.80	4.59	3.88	3.89	9.70	8.20	7.00			-1.20	-14.63
European Union	4.26	4.07	4.13	9.06	8.48	8.72	38.60	34.50	36.03			1.54	4.45
France	1.84	1.76	1.78	9.10	8.35	8.71	16.75	14.70	15.50			0.80	5.44
Italy	1.04	0.96	1.00	9.79	8.96	9.50	10.14	8.60	9.50			0.90	10.47
Mexico	7.21	7.45	7.70	2.35	2.35	2.40	16.93	17.50	18.50			1.00	5.71
FSU-12	2.98	2.55	2.98	3.59	2.11	2.76	10.70	5.39	8.21			2.82	52.37
Russia	0.85	0.80	0.80	3.18	1.00	2.50	2.70	0.80	2.00			1.20	150.00
Ukraine	1.35	0.91	1.30	3.96	2.53	2.85	5.34	2.30	3.70			1.40	60.87
Other W. Europe	0.03	0.02	0.03	8.80	8.41	8.80	0.22	0.19	0.22			0.04	18.92
Others	0.05	0.04	0.03	4.33	4.17	4.23	0.21	0.17	0.11			-0.06	-35.67
Other Foreign	77.20	79.51	80.92	2.73	2.98	3.02	210.54	236.87	244.25			7.38	3.12
China	23.78	24.25	25.00	4.39	5.11	5.20	104.30	124.00	130.00			6.00	4.84
Brazil	11.39	12.00	12.40	2.64	2.71	2.66	30.02	32.50	33.00			0.50	1.54
India	6.31	6.10	6.30	1.72	1.61	1.67	10.85	9.80	10.50			0.70	7.14
Canada	1.01	1.12	1.15	7.10	7.96	7.39	7.18	8.90	8.50			-0.40	-4.49
Indonesia	2.90	3.20	2.90	1.97	2.03	2.00	5.70	6.50	5.80			-0.70	-10.77
Philippines	2.37	2.78	2.60	1.49	1.73	1.62	3.53	4.80	4.20			-0.60	-12.50
Egypt	0.84	0.74	0.80	7.18	7.82	7.63	6.01	5.76	6.10			0.34	5.90
Zimbabwe	1.23	1.45	1.60	1.19	1.03	1.25	1.46	1.50	2.00			0.50	33.33
Others	27.39	27.88	28.17	1.51	1.55	1.57	41.49	43.11	44.15			1.04	2.42

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 6

Barley Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		Prel.	1999/00 Proj.		
	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	1997/98	1998/99	May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	64.95	61.16	57.19	2.38	2.24	2.39	154.45	137.08	136.42	-0.66	-0.48
United States	2.51	2.37	1.95	3.12	3.23	3.26	7.84	7.67	6.36	-1.32	-17.15
Total Foreign	62.45	58.79	55.24	2.35	2.20	2.35	146.61	129.40	130.06	0.66	0.51
European Union	11.84	11.44	10.57	4.44	4.54	4.63	52.52	51.94	48.91	-3.03	-5.83
Denmark	0.72	0.67	0.65	5.40	5.32	5.38	3.89	3.55	3.50	-0.05	-1.41
France	1.68	1.62	1.53	6.06	6.65	6.21	10.18	10.74	9.50	-1.24	-11.55
Germany	2.27	2.18	2.20	5.89	5.74	5.91	13.40	12.51	13.00	0.49	3.90
Italy	0.34	0.36	0.34	3.25	3.62	3.68	1.09	1.29	1.25	-0.04	-2.80
Spain	3.71	3.59	3.00	2.32	3.06	2.67	8.60	11.00	8.00	-3.00	-27.27
United Kingdom	1.33	1.27	1.10	5.89	5.11	5.82	7.83	6.50	6.40	-0.10	-1.48
FSU-12	21.12	18.08	17.59	1.62	1.08	1.49	34.19	19.46	26.29	6.83	35.10
Russia	12.60	11.30	11.50	1.65	0.87	1.39	20.80	9.80	16.00	6.20	63.27
Ukraine	3.70	3.57	3.60	2.00	1.65	1.89	7.41	5.87	6.80	0.93	15.84
Kazakstan	3.34	1.80	1.10	0.80	0.61	0.73	2.67	1.10	0.80	-0.30	-27.27
Baltic States	0.83	0.83	0.83	2.33	2.33	2.33	1.94	1.93	1.93	0.00	0.00
Eastern Europe	3.67	3.44	3.42	3.27	3.06	3.11	12.01	10.53	10.63	0.10	0.92
Poland	1.24	1.14	1.10	3.11	3.17	3.00	3.87	3.61	3.30	-0.31	-8.64
Czech Rep.	0.65	0.58	0.65	3.84	3.49	3.85	2.49	2.03	2.50	0.48	23.46
Romania	0.62	0.55	0.55	3.06	2.27	2.55	1.89	1.25	1.40	0.15	12.00
Canada	4.70	4.27	4.20	2.88	2.97	2.98	13.53	12.70	12.50	-0.20	-1.57
Other W. Europe	0.23	0.21	0.21	4.33	4.72	4.40	0.97	0.97	0.93	-0.04	-4.34
Norway	0.18	0.16	0.16	3.77	4.05	3.75	0.66	0.64	0.60	-0.04	-6.25
Turkey	3.70	3.60	3.60	1.97	2.11	2.11	7.30	7.60	7.60	0.00	0.00
Australia	3.46	2.96	2.80	1.86	1.82	1.86	6.43	5.40	5.20	-0.20	-3.70
China	1.30	1.20	1.00	3.08	2.92	3.00	4.00	3.50	3.00	-0.50	-14.29
Morocco	2.00	2.43	1.70	0.66	0.81	0.59	1.32	1.97	1.00	-0.97	-49.24
India	0.76	0.85	0.85	1.93	1.95	2.00	1.46	1.67	1.70	0.03	1.86
Others	8.85	9.48	8.46	1.24	1.24	1.23	10.95	11.74	10.37	-1.36	-11.61

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 7

Oats Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May		From last year
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	16.61	15.29	14.74	1.85	1.65	1.77	30.81	25.29	26.07	0.78	3.10
United States	1.14	1.12	1.09	2.13	2.17	2.14	2.43	2.43	2.32	-0.10	-4.29
Total Foreign	15.47	14.17	13.66	1.83	1.61	1.74	28.39	22.86	23.75	0.89	3.88
FSU-12	7.47	6.16	5.96	1.50	0.99	1.22	11.23	6.12	7.30	1.18	19.25
Russia	6.50	5.20	5.00	1.45	0.88	1.10	9.40	4.60	5.50	0.90	19.57
Ukraine	0.55	0.55	0.55	1.92	1.35	1.82	1.06	0.74	1.00	0.26	35.14
Belarus	0.34	0.30	0.30	2.06	2.33	2.33	0.70	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00
Baltic States	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.13	2.13	2.13	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00
Maj. Foreign Exporters	2.72	2.63	2.52	2.05	2.08	2.06	5.58	5.49	5.18	-0.30	-5.56
Canada	1.50	1.59	1.50	2.32	2.49	2.47	3.49	3.96	3.70	-0.26	-6.52
Australia	0.93	0.77	0.74	1.70	1.49	1.49	1.58	1.14	1.10	-0.04	-3.68
Argentina	0.29	0.28	0.28	1.76	1.40	1.36	0.51	0.39	0.38	-0.00	-1.30
Other Foreign	5.49	5.59	5.36	2.27	2.13	2.26	12.48	11.89	12.13	0.24	2.02
China	0.45	0.55	0.50	0.89	1.18	1.20	0.40	0.65	0.60	-0.05	-7.69
European Union	1.99	1.92	1.82	3.34	3.21	3.54	6.63	6.18	6.44	0.26	4.14
France	0.13	0.14	0.13	4.24	4.77	4.50	0.56	0.64	0.59	-0.06	-9.16
Germany	0.31	0.26	0.30	5.16	4.84	5.00	1.60	1.28	1.50	0.22	17.28
Italy	0.14	0.15	0.15	1.98	2.48	2.47	0.28	0.38	0.37	-0.00	-1.33
Finland	0.37	0.38	0.35	3.37	2.59	3.43	1.24	0.98	1.20	0.23	23.08
Sweden	0.32	0.31	0.30	4.05	3.65	3.83	1.28	1.14	1.15	0.01	1.23
Eastern Europe	1.15	1.10	1.12	2.34	2.26	2.17	2.69	2.48	2.43	-0.04	-1.82
Czech Rep.	0.08	0.06	0.06	3.17	3.17	3.17	0.25	0.19	0.19	0.00	0.00
Poland	0.63	0.56	0.56	2.60	2.60	2.50	1.63	1.46	1.40	-0.06	-4.11
Yugoslavia	0.13	0.13	0.13	1.88	1.80	1.77	0.24	0.24	0.23	-0.01	-4.17
Norway	0.09	0.10	0.10	3.90	3.94	3.95	0.36	0.38	0.38	-0.00	-0.79
Turkey	0.16	0.17	0.15	1.77	1.80	1.72	0.28	0.31	0.25	-0.06	-19.35
Others	1.29	1.37	1.33	0.69	0.67	0.63	0.88	0.93	0.84	-0.08	-8.97

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 8

Rye Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	10.37	10.36	10.19	2.35	1.96	2.05	24.39	20.28	20.86	0.58	2.87
United States	0.13	0.17	0.19	1.62	1.78	1.67	0.21	0.30	0.32	0.02	6.67
Total Foreign	10.24	10.19	10.00	2.36	1.96	2.05	24.19	19.98	20.54	0.56	2.81
FSU-12	5.66	5.47	5.62	1.95	1.12	1.43	11.01	6.11	8.06	1.95	31.94
Russia	4.00	3.80	4.00	1.88	0.87	1.25	7.50	3.30	5.00	1.70	51.52
Ukraine	0.70	0.70	0.65	1.94	1.64	1.85	1.35	1.14	1.20	0.06	5.26
Belarus	0.89	0.90	0.90	2.36	1.78	2.00	2.10	1.60	1.80	0.20	12.50
Baltic States	0.24	0.24	0.24	2.08	2.04	2.04	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.00	0.00
Major Exporter											
Canada	0.16	0.20	0.16	1.98	1.95	2.00	0.32	0.40	0.32	-0.08	-19.60
Other Foreign	4.18	4.28	3.98	2.96	3.04	2.94	12.36	12.99	11.68	-1.31	-10.10
Eastern Europe	2.56	2.54	2.43	2.32	2.47	2.41	5.93	6.28	5.85	-0.43	-6.79
Hungary	0.07	0.07	0.07	2.00	1.79	1.86	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.00	4.00
Poland	2.30	2.29	2.20	2.31	2.47	2.41	5.30	5.66	5.30	-0.36	-6.43
Czech Rep.	0.08	0.08	0.06	3.41	3.47	3.64	0.26	0.26	0.20	-0.06	-23.08
European Union	1.34	1.45	1.23	4.51	4.36	4.40	6.03	6.33	5.43	-0.90	-14.18
Denmark	0.08	0.11	0.06	5.39	4.76	4.73	0.45	0.50	0.26	-0.24	-48.00
France	0.05	0.05	0.05	4.40	4.84	4.84	0.21	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00
Germany	0.85	0.94	0.80	5.41	5.10	5.25	4.58	4.78	4.20	-0.58	-12.04
Spain	0.15	0.15	0.15	1.48	1.50	1.50	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00
Austria	0.06	0.06	0.06	3.63	4.29	3.88	0.21	0.24	0.23	-0.01	-4.66
Sweden	0.03	0.04	0.03	5.17	4.60	4.80	0.15	0.16	0.12	-0.04	-25.47
Turkey	0.15	0.15	0.18	1.60	1.61	1.39	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.01	5.49
Others	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.18	1.07	1.06	0.17	0.15	0.15	-0.00	-0.68

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 9

Sorghum Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area			Yield			Production			Change in Production	
	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	1997/98	Prel. 1998/99	1999/00 Proj. May	From last year	
	Million hectares			Metric tons per hectare			Million metric tons			MMT	Percent
World	41.34	41.02	41.27	1.40	1.52	1.46	57.87	62.55	60.34	-2.21	-3.53
United States	3.71	3.13	3.11	4.34	4.23	4.33	16.09	13.21	13.46	0.26	1.94
Total Foreign	37.63	37.90	38.16	1.11	1.30	1.23	41.78	49.35	46.88	-2.47	-5.00
India	10.99	11.50	11.20	0.73	0.98	0.98	7.98	11.30	11.00	-0.30	-2.65
China	1.08	1.10	1.10	3.36	4.09	4.09	3.64	4.50	4.50	0.00	0.00
Mexico	1.71	1.90	1.85	3.12	3.47	3.24	5.34	6.60	6.00	-0.60	-9.09
Nigeria	6.50	6.60	6.60	1.07	1.11	1.09	6.93	7.30	7.20	-0.10	-1.37
Sudan	5.70	5.20	5.70	0.56	0.87	0.56	3.20	4.50	3.20	-1.30	-28.89
Argentina	0.79	0.75	0.80	4.80	4.40	4.38	3.77	3.30	3.50	0.20	6.06
Australia	0.57	0.68	0.60	1.87	2.22	2.00	1.07	1.50	1.20	-0.30	-20.00
Ethiopia	1.45	1.60	1.50	0.90	1.06	1.10	1.30	1.70	1.65	-0.05	-2.94
Colombia	0.07	0.06	0.06	2.77	2.92	3.00	0.18	0.18	0.17	-0.01	-5.71
Venezuela	0.25	0.24	0.24	1.55	1.54	1.54	0.38	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00
Egypt	0.16	0.16	0.16	4.91	4.97	4.84	0.77	0.77	0.75	-0.02	-2.60
Yemen	0.38	0.38	0.40	0.96	1.00	0.90	0.36	0.38	0.36	-0.01	-4.00
Tanzania	0.63	0.50	0.65	0.80	0.85	0.92	0.50	0.43	0.60	0.18	41.18
Niger	1.40	1.40	1.40	0.30	0.30	0.29	0.43	0.43	0.40	-0.03	-5.88
South Africa	0.13	0.10	0.10	2.02	1.50	2.00	0.27	0.15	0.20	0.05	33.33
Thailand	0.16	0.16	0.16	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00
Others	5.69	5.58	5.65	0.96	1.03	0.99	5.47	5.75	5.58	-0.17	-2.97

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Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 10

Rice Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield (Rough)				Production (Milled)				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	149.77	150.79	149.08	149.09	3.76	3.79	3.76	3.78	380.42	385.40	378.39	379.59	1.20	0.32	-5.81	-1.51
United States	1.14	1.26	1.34	1.34	6.86	6.61	6.36	6.36	5.46	5.98	6.14	6.14	0.00	0.00	0.17	2.76
Total Foreign	148.64	149.53	147.74	147.74	3.74	3.77	3.74	3.76	374.96	379.43	372.25	373.45	1.20	0.32	-5.98	-1.58
Major Exporters	24.16	24.89	24.39	24.39	2.90	2.94	2.98	2.98	44.97	47.15	46.75	46.75	0.00	0.00	-0.40	-0.85
Vietnam	7.04	7.37	7.20	7.20	3.87	3.88	3.89	3.89	18.00	18.87	18.50	18.50	0.00	0.00	-0.37	-1.97
Thailand	9.27	9.60	9.21	9.21	2.23	2.38	2.35	2.35	13.66	15.05	14.30	14.30	0.00	0.00	-0.75	-4.97
Burma	5.60	5.60	5.60	5.60	2.77	2.74	2.86	2.86	9.00	8.90	9.30	9.30	0.00	0.00	0.40	4.49
Pakistan	2.25	2.32	2.38	2.38	2.87	2.81	2.94	2.94	4.31	4.33	4.65	4.65	0.00	0.00	0.32	7.32
Major Importers	15.69	16.13	15.87	15.97	4.13	3.97	4.16	4.13	43.31	41.92	43.95	43.05	-0.90	-2.05	1.13	2.69
Indonesia	11.14	11.61	11.40	11.50	4.43	4.17	4.45	4.42	32.08	30.63	33.00	32.10	-0.90	-2.73	1.47	4.79
South Korea	1.05	1.05	1.06	1.06	6.78	7.00	6.51	6.51	5.32	5.45	5.10	5.10	0.00	0.00	-0.35	-6.42
European Union	0.43	0.42	0.42	0.42	6.10	6.37	6.15	6.15	1.71	1.80	1.69	1.69	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-5.95
Iran	0.60	0.60	0.60	0.60	4.00	4.00	4.38	4.38	1.60	1.60	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	0.15	9.37
Nigeria	1.66	1.65	1.65	1.65	1.96	1.87	1.87	1.87	1.95	1.85	1.85	1.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other Foreign	108.79	108.51	107.48	107.39	4.12	4.19	4.11	4.14	286.67	290.35	281.55	283.65	2.10	0.75	-6.70	-2.31
China	31.41	31.77	31.10	31.10	6.21	6.32	6.11	6.11	136.57	140.49	133.00	133.00	0.00	0.00	-7.49	-5.33
India	43.28	43.42	42.70	42.70	2.82	2.84	2.85	2.92	81.31	82.30	81.00	83.00	2.00	2.47	0.70	0.85
Bangladesh	10.41	10.26	9.98	9.98	2.72	2.76	2.68	2.68	18.88	18.86	17.80	17.80	0.00	0.00	-1.06	-5.63
Japan	1.98	1.95	1.80	1.80	6.54	6.42	6.22	6.22	9.41	9.12	8.15	8.15	0.00	0.00	-0.97	-10.62
Brazil	3.48	3.29	3.83	3.72	2.73	2.60	2.92	3.03	6.46	5.82	7.60	7.65	0.05	0.66	1.84	31.56
Philippines	3.91	3.50	3.60	3.60	2.86	2.85	2.84	2.84	7.27	6.49	6.65	6.65	0.00	0.00	0.16	2.50
Egypt	0.59	0.63	0.50	0.50	8.29	8.39	8.93	8.93	2.99	3.59	3.06	3.06	0.00	0.00	-0.53	-14.86
Taiwan	0.35	0.36	0.36	0.36	5.55	5.61	5.20	5.20	1.42	1.46	1.33	1.33	0.00	0.00	-0.13	-8.89
FSU-12	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	2.53	2.40	2.40	2.40	0.83	0.79	0.80	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63
Russia	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	2.36	2.07	2.07	2.07	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Australia	0.17	0.14	0.15	0.15	8.36	9.41	8.88	8.88	0.99	0.96	0.97	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.01	1.05
Others	12.71	12.68	12.94	12.96	3.03	3.04	2.99	2.99	20.53	20.47	21.19	21.24	0.05	0.24	0.77	3.76

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TABLE 11

Total Oilseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World Total 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	261.99	286.04	293.20	292.10	-1.10	-0.38	6.06	2.12
Total Foreign 1/	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	187.23	202.94	208.57	207.18	-1.39	-0.67	4.24	2.09
Copra	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	6.10	5.84	5.18	5.21	0.03	0.58	-0.64	-10.87
Palm Kernel	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	5.24	5.13	5.42	5.48	0.06	1.16	0.36	6.99
Major Oilseeds 2/	159.23	165.75	172.19	171.52	1.57	1.66	1.64	1.64	250.64	275.07	282.61	281.41	-1.20	-0.42	6.34	2.30
United States 2/	32.56	35.35	35.44	35.43	2.30	2.35	2.39	2.40	74.76	83.10	84.63	84.92	0.29	0.34	1.82	2.19
Foreign Oilseeds 2/	126.68	130.40	136.75	136.10	1.39	1.47	1.45	1.44	175.89	191.98	197.98	196.50	-1.48	-0.75	4.52	2.35
South America	25.31	27.94	28.58	28.37	1.97	2.26	2.23	2.22	49.99	63.01	63.75	62.94	-0.80	-1.26	-0.06	-0.10
Brazil	12.66	14.03	13.82	13.87	2.21	2.31	2.31	2.30	27.98	32.39	31.89	31.91	0.02	0.08	-0.48	-1.47
Argentina	10.26	11.48	12.19	12.02	1.70	2.25	2.17	2.16	17.46	25.83	26.50	25.91	-0.59	-2.25	0.08	0.31
Paraguay	1.38	1.47	1.48	1.48	2.12	2.18	2.38	2.31	2.92	3.21	3.52	3.43	-0.10	-2.73	0.22	6.76
China	23.23	23.76	23.92	23.92	1.78	1.83	1.78	1.78	41.45	43.41	42.65	42.65	0.00	0.00	-0.76	-1.75
India	30.79	30.43	32.17	32.17	0.89	0.80	0.82	0.81	27.28	24.22	26.22	25.92	-0.30	-1.14	1.70	7.02
European Union	5.84	6.10	6.40	6.39	2.22	2.47	2.43	2.43	12.95	15.04	15.53	15.51	-0.02	-0.13	0.47	3.13
France	1.87	1.96	1.99	1.99	2.73	2.88	2.88	2.88	5.10	5.66	5.73	5.73	0.00	0.00	0.07	1.24
Italy	0.58	0.75	0.81	0.81	2.56	2.47	2.54	2.54	1.49	1.84	2.06	2.06	0.00	0.00	0.22	11.89
Germany	0.90	0.95	1.04	1.04	2.51	3.11	3.22	3.22	2.26	2.96	3.36	3.36	0.00	0.00	0.41	13.73
Spain	1.17	1.14	1.18	1.18	1.17	1.42	1.13	1.13	1.38	1.62	1.33	1.33	0.00	0.00	-0.29	-17.76
United Kingdom	0.41	0.47	0.53	0.53	3.41	3.23	2.96	2.96	1.41	1.53	1.57	1.57	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.95
FSU-12	9.76	9.10	10.31	10.19	0.87	0.99	0.88	0.88	8.50	8.96	9.03	8.93	-0.09	-1.05	-0.03	-0.33
Russia	4.55	4.10	4.69	4.69	0.69	0.78	0.72	0.72	3.15	3.18	3.40	3.40	0.00	0.00	0.22	6.85
Ukraine	2.07	2.04	2.44	2.44	1.04	1.16	0.95	0.95	2.16	2.36	2.32	2.32	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-1.66
Uzbekistan	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.35	1.55	1.33	1.33	2.01	2.30	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-13.04
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.58	0.82	0.87	0.87	0.26	0.37	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.16
Canada	4.35	5.99	6.47	6.47	1.68	1.54	1.61	1.61	7.28	9.20	10.44	10.44	0.00	0.00	1.24	13.49
Indonesia	1.83	1.74	1.76	1.70	1.34	1.32	1.31	1.32	2.45	2.30	2.31	2.24	-0.07	-2.82	-0.05	-2.35
Pakistan	3.66	3.52	3.45	3.45	1.00	1.04	0.98	0.96	3.67	3.66	3.37	3.30	-0.07	-2.20	-0.36	-9.92
Eastern Europe	3.07	2.86	3.19	3.21	1.53	1.48	1.68	1.68	4.69	4.23	5.35	5.39	0.04	0.80	1.16	27.47
Poland	0.28	0.32	0.45	0.47	1.59	1.88	2.33	2.35	0.45	0.60	1.05	1.09	0.04	4.10	0.50	83.70
Romania	0.99	0.85	0.96	0.97	1.31	1.17	1.32	1.33	1.30	0.99	1.27	1.28	0.01	0.87	0.29	29.36
Hungary	0.58	0.55	0.50	0.50	1.66	1.31	1.64	1.64	0.97	0.72	0.82	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.10	13.28
Turkey	1.36	1.31	1.35	1.33	1.38	1.50	1.52	1.55	1.87	1.97	2.05	2.07	0.02	0.73	0.10	4.98
Philippines	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.87	0.89	0.95	0.92	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	-0.00	-3.57	0.00	5.88
Mexico	0.38	0.43	0.42	0.41	1.42	1.55	1.48	1.48	0.55	0.67	0.63	0.61	-0.02	-3.20	-0.06	-9.43
Others	17.05	17.18	18.68	18.43	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	15.17	15.28	16.61	16.45	-0.16	-0.96	1.18	7.70

1/ Major oilseeds plus copra and palm kernel. 2/ Individual countries and regions include soybean, cottonseed, peanut (inshell), sunflowerseed, and rapeseed.

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TABLE 12

Soybean Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	63.08	69.01	70.65	70.32	2.10	2.27	2.23	2.24	132.19	156.73	157.75	157.19	-0.57	-0.36	0.46	0.29
United States	25.64	27.97	28.66	28.66	2.53	2.62	2.62	2.62	64.78	73.18	75.03	75.03	0.00	0.00	1.85	2.53
Total Foreign	37.44	41.04	41.99	41.67	1.80	2.04	1.97	1.97	67.41	83.55	82.73	82.16	-0.56	-0.68	-1.39	-1.67
Major Exporters	19.20	21.15	21.55	21.45	2.15	2.54	2.46	2.46	41.27	53.69	53.00	52.70	-0.30	-0.57	-0.99	-1.85
Brazil	11.80	13.00	12.90	12.90	2.31	2.42	2.40	2.40	27.30	31.50	31.00	31.00	0.00	0.00	-0.50	-1.59
Argentina	6.20	6.95	7.40	7.30	1.81	2.76	2.53	2.53	11.20	19.20	18.70	18.50	-0.20	-1.07	-0.70	-3.65
Paraguay	1.20	1.20	1.25	1.25	2.31	2.49	2.64	2.56	2.77	2.99	3.30	3.20	-0.10	-3.03	0.21	6.92
Other Foreign	18.24	19.88	20.44	20.22	1.43	1.50	1.45	1.46	26.14	29.86	29.73	29.46	-0.26	-0.89	-0.40	-1.34
China	7.47	8.35	8.00	8.00	1.77	1.76	1.73	1.73	13.22	14.73	13.80	13.80	0.00	0.00	-0.93	-6.30
India	5.00	5.60	6.10	6.10	0.82	0.96	0.90	0.90	4.10	5.35	5.50	5.50	0.00	0.00	0.15	2.80
Canada	0.86	1.06	0.98	0.98	2.52	2.58	2.79	2.79	2.17	2.74	2.74	2.74	0.00	0.00	-0.00	-0.04
Indonesia	1.18	1.09	1.08	1.08	1.24	1.20	1.21	1.21	1.46	1.31	1.30	1.30	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.46
Eastern Europe	0.20	0.16	0.29	0.29	1.71	2.20	1.75	1.75	0.35	0.36	0.50	0.50	0.00	0.00	0.15	41.97
European Union	0.34	0.46	0.54	0.54	3.39	3.44	3.26	3.26	1.14	1.57	1.74	1.74	0.00	0.00	0.17	11.02
FSU-12	0.52	0.42	0.50	0.47	0.59	0.72	0.72	0.70	0.31	0.31	0.36	0.33	-0.03	-8.91	0.02	7.21
Russia	0.49	0.40	0.44	0.44	0.58	0.69	0.68	0.68	0.28	0.28	0.30	0.30	0.00	0.00	0.02	7.14
Ukraine	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.80	1.29	1.00	1.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.11
Mexico	0.05	0.13	0.10	0.09	1.17	1.48	1.50	1.61	0.06	0.19	0.15	0.14	-0.01	-4.67	-0.05	-24.34
Thailand	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.27	1.41	1.25	1.30	1.30	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.69
North Korea	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	1.29	1.29	1.23	1.29	0.42	0.42	0.40	0.42	0.02	5.00	0.00	0.00
Japan	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.11	1.80	1.75	1.45	1.45	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.01	8.97
Bolivia	0.53	0.54	0.63	0.54	1.96	2.00	1.98	2.04	1.04	1.07	1.25	1.10	-0.15	-12.00	0.03	2.71
South Korea	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.63	1.56	1.43	1.43	0.16	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-10.26
Colombia	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.04	2.00	2.17	2.17	2.17	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Others	1.29	1.28	1.40	1.31	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.89	1.14	1.13	1.26	1.16	-0.10	-7.63	0.04	3.29

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TABLE 13

Cottonseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	33.74	33.51	32.70	32.61	1.02	1.05	1.00	1.01	34.37	35.06	32.69	32.78	0.09	0.29	-2.28	-6.50
United States	5.22	5.43	4.34	4.32	1.24	1.16	1.08	1.15	6.48	6.29	4.70	4.99	0.29	6.08	-1.30	-20.73
Total Foreign	28.52	28.08	28.36	28.29	0.98	1.02	0.99	0.98	27.89	28.77	27.99	27.79	-0.19	-0.69	-0.97	-3.39
China	4.72	4.50	4.40	4.40	1.60	1.84	1.80	1.80	7.56	8.28	7.92	7.92	0.00	0.00	-0.36	-4.35
FSU-12	2.50	2.46	2.53	2.53	1.08	1.25	1.12	1.12	2.71	3.09	2.84	2.84	0.00	0.00	-0.25	-8.13
Uzbekistan	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.50	1.35	1.55	1.33	1.33	2.01	2.30	2.00	2.00	0.00	0.00	-0.30	-13.04
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.48	0.58	0.82	0.87	0.87	0.26	0.37	0.42	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.16
India	9.12	8.83	9.17	9.17	0.65	0.59	0.60	0.60	5.90	5.21	5.47	5.47	0.00	0.00	0.26	5.09
Pakistan	3.15	2.96	2.90	2.90	1.01	1.06	0.98	0.95	3.19	3.12	2.83	2.75	-0.08	-2.83	-0.37	-11.97
Brazil	0.70	0.85	0.80	0.80	0.71	0.76	0.89	0.89	0.49	0.65	0.71	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.06	9.23
Turkey	0.74	0.72	0.75	0.75	1.58	1.65	1.67	1.72	1.18	1.19	1.25	1.29	0.04	3.20	0.10	8.40
African Franc Zone	1.91	2.24	2.31	2.31	0.72	0.72	0.66	0.66	1.38	1.61	1.52	1.52	0.00	0.00	-0.09	-5.58
Australia	0.40	0.44	0.53	0.53	2.13	2.15	1.96	1.89	0.84	0.94	1.03	0.99	-0.04	-3.79	0.05	5.21
Egypt	0.39	0.37	0.28	0.28	1.52	1.28	1.32	1.36	0.59	0.48	0.37	0.38	0.01	2.70	-0.10	-20.83
Argentina	0.88	0.80	0.72	0.65	0.64	0.63	0.76	0.66	0.56	0.50	0.55	0.43	-0.12	-21.82	-0.07	-14.00
Paraguay	0.11	0.20	0.14	0.14	0.64	0.60	0.68	0.68	0.07	0.12	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-20.83
Greece	0.42	0.39	0.40	0.40	1.13	1.53	1.40	1.40	0.48	0.59	0.56	0.56	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-5.72
Syria	0.22	0.25	0.27	0.27	2.39	2.90	2.56	2.56	0.53	0.73	0.69	0.69	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-5.09
Mexico	0.25	0.21	0.23	0.23	1.50	1.64	1.48	1.47	0.37	0.34	0.34	0.34	-0.00	-0.88	0.00	0.00
Colombia	0.09	0.05	0.06	0.06	1.21	1.30	1.31	1.31	0.10	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.86
Sudan	0.28	0.27	0.15	0.15	0.82	0.79	0.77	0.77	0.23	0.21	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	-0.10	-45.24
Others	2.66	2.54	2.74	2.74	0.65	0.65	0.59	0.59	1.73	1.64	1.63	1.63	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.85

TABLE 14

Peanut Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	20.57	19.94	21.35	21.22	1.39	1.34	1.37	1.37	28.53	26.63	29.34	29.15	-0.20	-0.68	2.52	9.46
United States	0.56	0.57	0.59	0.59	2.98	2.81	3.03	3.03	1.66	1.61	1.80	1.80	0.00	0.00	0.19	12.02
Total Foreign	20.01	19.37	20.76	20.63	1.34	1.29	1.33	1.33	26.87	25.02	27.55	27.35	-0.20	-0.72	2.33	9.30
China	3.62	3.72	4.10	4.10	2.80	2.59	2.85	2.85	10.14	9.65	11.70	11.70	0.00	0.00	2.05	21.27
India	7.81	7.20	8.10	8.10	1.15	1.05	0.98	0.98	9.02	7.58	7.90	7.90	0.00	0.00	0.32	4.22
Indonesia	0.63	0.63	0.66	0.60	1.56	1.57	1.52	1.56	0.99	0.98	1.00	0.94	-0.07	-6.50	-0.05	-4.98
Senegal	0.92	0.73	0.62	0.62	0.70	0.70	0.89	0.89	0.65	0.51	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.04	8.70
Burma	0.52	0.48	0.53	0.48	1.15	1.17	1.09	1.17	0.59	0.56	0.58	0.56	-0.02	-3.62	0.00	0.00
Sudan	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.55	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Zaire	0.73	0.72	0.73	0.72	0.79	0.78	0.79	0.78	0.57	0.57	0.58	0.57	-0.01	-2.59	0.00	0.00
Argentina	0.28	0.39	0.32	0.32	1.09	1.60	1.72	1.48	0.30	0.63	0.55	0.48	-0.08	-13.64	-0.15	-24.00
Nigeria	0.65	0.70	0.75	0.75	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.33	0.35	0.38	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.03	7.14
Vietnam	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.25	1.36	1.41	1.31	1.40	0.36	0.35	0.34	0.35	0.01	2.94	-0.00	-0.85
South Africa	0.10	0.06	0.11	0.10	1.47	1.64	1.55	1.53	0.14	0.10	0.17	0.15	-0.03	-14.71	0.05	49.48
Thailand	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	1.48	1.48	1.50	1.50	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.00	3.33	0.01	4.73
Burkina Faso	0.28	0.23	0.25	0.23	0.82	0.65	0.84	0.65	0.23	0.15	0.21	0.15	-0.06	-27.62	0.00	0.00
Brazil	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.09	1.59	1.94	1.67	1.67	0.14	0.19	0.15	0.15	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-19.35
Central African Rep.	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.94	0.97	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.09
Cameroon	0.32	0.32	0.42	0.42	0.53	0.28	0.41	0.40	0.17	0.09	0.17	0.17	-0.00	-1.16	0.08	88.89
Cote d'Ivoire	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	1.05	1.02	1.04	1.01	0.15	0.14	0.15	0.14	-0.01	-6.21	-0.01	-4.90
Mexico	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	1.40	1.49	1.53	1.41	0.11	0.14	0.13	0.12	-0.01	-7.69	-0.02	-12.41
Gambia	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.72	1.11	0.80	1.11	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.02	30.00	0.00	0.00
Others	2.79	2.80	2.77	2.81	0.84	0.84	0.84	0.84	2.33	2.35	2.31	2.36	0.05	2.07	0.01	0.38

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TABLE 15

Sunflowerseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	19.70	19.54	21.99	21.82	1.21	1.19	1.18	1.18	23.93	23.34	26.00	25.69	-0.31	-1.20	2.35	10.09
United States	1.00	1.13	1.41	1.41	1.61	1.48	1.69	1.69	1.61	1.67	2.38	2.38	0.00	0.00	0.71	42.69
Total Foreign	18.70	18.41	20.58	20.42	1.19	1.18	1.15	1.14	22.31	21.67	23.62	23.31	-0.31	-1.32	1.64	7.58
FSU-12	6.45	5.96	6.97	6.91	0.82	0.90	0.80	0.80	5.28	5.38	5.60	5.55	-0.05	-0.84	0.17	3.18
Russia	3.89	3.58	4.10	4.10	0.71	0.79	0.73	0.73	2.77	2.83	3.00	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.17	5.97
Ukraine	2.03	2.00	2.40	2.40	1.05	1.15	0.94	0.94	2.12	2.31	2.27	2.27	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-1.82
Argentina	2.90	3.33	3.75	3.75	1.86	1.65	1.79	1.73	5.40	5.50	6.70	6.50	-0.20	-2.99	1.00	18.18
European Union	2.35	2.33	2.26	2.25	1.65	1.75	1.61	1.61	3.89	4.07	3.62	3.63	0.00	0.11	-0.44	-10.90
France	0.92	0.90	0.79	0.79	2.19	2.21	2.22	2.22	2.00	1.98	1.75	1.75	0.00	0.00	-0.23	-11.62
Spain	0.99	0.97	1.03	1.03	1.15	1.41	1.07	1.07	1.14	1.37	1.10	1.10	0.00	0.00	-0.27	-19.53
Italy	0.26	0.30	0.28	0.28	1.99	1.67	1.96	1.96	0.52	0.51	0.55	0.55	0.00	0.00	0.04	8.06
Eastern Europe	2.14	1.93	2.04	2.04	1.42	1.20	1.40	1.40	3.04	2.31	2.86	2.85	-0.01	-0.32	0.54	23.29
Hungary	0.48	0.45	0.43	0.43	1.68	1.22	1.65	1.65	0.80	0.55	0.71	0.71	0.00	0.00	0.16	29.54
Romania	0.91	0.78	0.82	0.82	1.30	1.10	1.30	1.30	1.18	0.86	1.07	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.21	24.71
Yugoslavia	0.23	0.19	0.21	0.21	1.85	1.64	1.95	1.95	0.43	0.32	0.40	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.08	26.58
Bulgaria	0.45	0.45	0.51	0.51	1.09	1.11	1.02	1.02	0.49	0.50	0.52	0.52	0.00	0.00	0.01	3.00
Czech Rep.	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	1.90	2.09	2.00	2.09	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.02	-0.02	-50.00	0.00	0.00
China	0.69	0.72	0.72	0.72	1.92	1.64	1.29	1.29	1.33	1.18	0.93	0.93	0.00	0.00	-0.25	-20.92
India	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.20	0.66	0.55	0.57	0.57	1.32	1.15	1.25	1.25	0.00	0.00	0.10	8.70
Turkey	0.54	0.52	0.52	0.52	1.01	1.25	1.25	1.25	0.55	0.65	0.65	0.65	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
South Africa	0.46	0.51	0.83	0.83	0.97	1.10	0.97	1.01	0.45	0.56	0.80	0.84	0.04	5.00	0.28	49.47
Australia	0.14	0.09	0.17	0.17	1.21	1.07	1.18	1.18	0.17	0.10	0.20	0.20	0.00	0.00	0.10	104.08
Burma	0.22	0.12	0.24	0.12	0.73	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.16	0.09	0.18	0.09	-0.09	-48.89	0.00	0.00
Others	0.82	0.80	0.88	0.91	0.91	0.85	0.95	0.91	0.74	0.68	0.84	0.82	-0.01	-1.44	0.14	21.21

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TABLE 16

Rapeseed Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Metric tons per hectare				Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
World	22.14	23.75	25.51	25.54	1.43	1.40	1.44	1.43	31.62	33.32	36.82	36.60	-0.21	-0.58	3.28	9.85
United States	0.14	0.26	0.44	0.44	1.55	1.39	1.63	1.63	0.22	0.36	0.72	0.72	0.00	0.00	0.37	103.94
Total Foreign	22.00	23.50	25.07	25.10	1.43	1.40	1.44	1.43	31.40	32.97	36.09	35.88	-0.21	-0.59	2.91	8.84
India	6.86	6.70	6.60	6.60	1.01	0.74	0.92	0.88	6.94	4.94	6.10	5.80	-0.30	-4.92	0.87	17.53
China	6.73	6.48	6.70	6.70	1.37	1.48	1.24	1.24	9.20	9.58	8.30	8.30	0.00	0.00	-1.28	-13.34
Canada	3.45	4.88	5.42	5.42	1.47	1.31	1.40	1.40	5.06	6.39	7.59	7.59	0.00	0.00	1.20	18.71
European Union	2.65	2.81	3.11	3.11	2.76	3.07	3.04	3.04	7.33	8.64	9.46	9.43	-0.02	-0.25	0.79	9.20
France	0.87	0.97	1.10	1.10	3.32	3.51	3.36	3.36	2.87	3.40	3.70	3.70	0.00	0.00	0.30	8.82
Germany	0.85	0.91	1.01	1.01	2.52	3.14	3.25	3.25	2.15	2.87	3.28	3.28	0.00	0.00	0.41	14.23
United Kingdom	0.41	0.47	0.53	0.53	3.41	3.23	2.96	2.96	1.41	1.53	1.57	1.57	0.00	0.00	0.05	2.95
Denmark	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.12	2.37	2.82	2.75	2.75	0.25	0.29	0.33	0.33	0.00	0.00	0.04	12.63
Sweden	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	2.11	1.90	2.25	2.25	0.14	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.00	0.00	0.01	5.08
Eastern Europe	0.71	0.76	0.85	0.87	1.82	2.05	2.35	2.35	1.29	1.56	1.98	2.03	0.05	2.62	0.47	30.47
Poland	0.28	0.32	0.45	0.47	1.59	1.88	2.33	2.35	0.45	0.60	1.05	1.09	0.04	4.10	0.50	83.70
Czech Rep.	0.23	0.23	0.27	0.27	2.30	2.46	2.64	2.64	0.52	0.56	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.14	24.78
Australia	0.42	0.69	1.17	1.17	1.52	1.26	1.42	1.42	0.64	0.86	1.66	1.66	0.00	0.00	0.80	93.02
FSU-12	0.29	0.25	0.31	0.28	0.70	0.76	0.77	0.77	0.20	0.19	0.24	0.22	-0.02	-6.81	0.03	14.66
Russia	0.17	0.12	0.15	0.15	0.66	0.62	0.67	0.67	0.11	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.03	40.85
Pakistan	0.32	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.80	0.81	0.86	0.86	0.26	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.00	0.00	0.01	2.10
Bangladesh	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.36	0.73	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.27	0.02	7.20	0.02	7.63
Others	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.99	1.13	0.97	1.15	0.23	0.28	0.23	0.29	0.06	24.89	0.01	2.51

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 17

Copra, Palm Kernel, and Palm Oil Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Production				Change in Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million metric tons				MMT	Percent	MMT	Percent
COPRA								
World	6.10	5.84	5.18	5.21	0.03	0.58	-0.63	-10.87
Philippines	2.40	2.37	1.80	1.70	-0.10	-5.56	-0.67	-28.27
Indonesia	1.93	1.70	1.70	1.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
India	0.65	0.68	0.70	0.70	0.00	0.00	0.02	2.94
Mexico	0.21	0.20	0.22	0.21	-0.00	-1.40	0.01	4.43
Sri Lanka	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	-0.01	-7.14	0.00	0.00
Vietnam	0.20	0.21	0.13	0.20	0.07	53.85	-0.01	-4.76
Malaysia	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	166.67
Others	0.62	0.60	0.54	0.60	0.07	12.69	0.00	0.17
PALM KERNEL								
World	5.24	5.13	5.42	5.48	0.06	1.16	0.36	6.99
Malaysia	2.63	2.50	2.56	2.60	0.04	1.56	0.10	4.04
Indonesia	1.59	1.48	1.62	1.70	0.08	4.94	0.22	14.86
Nigeria	0.26	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.00	0.00	0.02	6.06
Cote d'Ivoire	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.41
Colombia	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.01	6.02
Thailand	0.09	0.11	0.08	0.08	0.00	0.00	-0.03	-23.36
Zaire	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.01	20.00	0.00	9.09
Ecuador	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.00	2.50	0.00	0.00
Others	0.46	0.48	0.58	0.51	-0.06	-11.05	0.03	6.40
PALM OIL								
World	17.73	17.05	17.87	18.45	0.58	3.22	1.39	8.18
Malaysia	9.01	8.51	8.75	8.90	0.15	1.71	0.39	4.61
Indonesia	5.39	5.00	5.50	5.80	0.30	5.45	0.80	16.00
Nigeria	0.60	0.65	0.76	0.76	0.00	0.00	0.11	16.92
Cote d'Ivoire	0.29	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.00	0.00	0.02	4.62
Colombia	0.44	0.42	0.47	0.47	0.00	0.00	0.04	9.67
Thailand	0.40	0.47	0.36	0.36	0.00	0.00	-0.11	-23.40
Zaire	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.14	0.02	17.39	0.01	8.00
Ecuador	0.20	0.23	0.25	0.23	-0.02	-8.00	0.01	2.22
Others	1.30	1.32	1.33	1.45	0.13	9.48	0.13	9.89

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 18

Cotton Area, Yield, and Production

World and Selected Countries and Regions

Country/Region	Area				Yield				Production				Change In Production			
		Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.			Prel.	1998/99 Proj.					
	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	1996/97	1997/98	Apr.	May	From last month		From last year	
	Million hectares				Kilograms per hectare				Million 480 lb. bales				MBales	Percent	MBales	Percent
World	33.79	33.56	32.77	32.68	577	594	563	560	89.56	91.60	84.68	84.07	-0.61	-0.72	-7.53	-8.22
United States	5.22	5.43	4.34	4.32	791	754	698	701	18.94	18.79	13.91	13.92	0.01	0.06	-4.88	-25.94
Total Foreign	28.57	28.13	28.43	28.36	538	563	542	539	70.62	72.80	70.77	70.15	-0.61	-0.87	-2.65	-3.64
Major Exporters	15.77	15.81	15.52	15.45	667	716	692	687	48.27	51.97	49.35	48.75	-0.60	-1.22	-3.22	-6.19
China	4.72	4.50	4.40	4.40	890	1,021	1,000	1,000	19.30	21.10	20.20	20.20	0.00	0.00	-0.90	-4.27
Pakistan	3.15	2.96	2.90	2.90	506	528	488	473	7.32	7.18	6.50	6.30	-0.20	-3.08	-0.88	-12.20
Sudan	0.28	0.27	0.15	0.15	358	329	327	327	0.46	0.40	0.23	0.23	0.00	0.00	-0.18	-43.75
Turkey	0.74	0.72	0.75	0.75	1,055	1,116	1,144	1,144	3.60	3.70	3.94	3.94	0.00	0.00	0.24	6.49
FSU-12	2.50	2.46	2.53	2.53	572	638	570	570	6.57	7.21	6.62	6.62	0.00	0.00	-0.59	-8.18
Uzbekistan	1.49	1.48	1.50	1.50	705	778	668	668	4.81	5.30	4.60	4.60	0.00	0.00	-0.70	-13.21
Turkmenistan	0.45	0.45	0.48	0.48	310	411	435	435	0.64	0.85	0.95	0.95	0.00	0.00	0.10	11.76
Other	0.57	0.53	0.55	0.55	432	436	421	421	1.12	1.06	1.07	1.07	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.94
Egypt	0.39	0.37	0.28	0.28	882	902	816	816	1.57	1.55	1.05	1.05	0.00	0.00	-0.50	-32.26
African Franc Zone	1.91	2.24	2.33	2.33	418	420	378	378	3.67	4.32	4.04	4.04	0.00	0.00	-0.28	-6.48
Southern Hemisphere	2.08	2.29	2.19	2.12	606	620	675	656	5.78	6.51	6.78	6.38	-0.40	-5.90	-0.14	-2.12
Argentina	0.88	0.80	0.72	0.65	369	367	423	368	1.49	1.35	1.40	1.10	-0.30	-21.43	-0.25	-18.52
Australia	0.40	0.44	0.53	0.53	1,535	1,523	1,327	1,286	2.79	3.06	3.20	3.10	-0.10	-3.13	0.04	1.21
Brazil	0.70	0.85	0.80	0.80	403	448	517	517	1.29	1.75	1.90	1.90	0.00	0.00	0.15	8.57
Paraguay	0.11	0.20	0.14	0.14	429	381	428	428	0.21	0.35	0.28	0.28	0.00	0.00	-0.08	-21.43
Major Importers	0.55	0.55	0.56	0.56	789	861	863	863	1.99	2.17	2.22	2.22	0.00	0.00	0.04	1.93
Other Foreign	12.25	11.77	12.35	12.35	362	345	338	338	20.36	18.66	19.20	19.18	-0.02	-0.08	0.52	2.81
India	9.12	8.83	9.17	9.17	332	302	306	306	13.92	12.26	12.90	12.90	0.00	0.00	0.64	5.24
Others	3.13	2.94	3.18	3.18	448	474	431	430	6.44	6.40	6.30	6.28	-0.02	-0.24	-0.12	-1.84

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

TABLE 19

The table below presents a 18-year record of the differences between the May projection and the final estimate. Using world wheat production as an example, changes between the May projection and the final estimate have averaged 15.2 million tons (2.9 percent) and ranged from -32.5 to 29.7 million tons. The May projection has been below the final 10 times and above the final 8 times.

RELIABILITY OF PRODUCTION PROJECTIONS

COMMODITY AND REGION	PROJECTION AND FINAL ESTIMATES, 1981/82 - 1998/99 1/					
	Difference		Lowest	Highest	Below	Above
	Average	Average	Difference		Final	Final
	Percent	---Million metric tons---			Number of years 2/	
WHEAT						
World	2.9	15.2	-32.5	29.7	10	8
U.S.	5.3	3.3	-7.2	9.8	9	9
Foreign	2.9	13.5	-25.3	28.7	9	9
COARSE GRAINS 3/						
World	3.3	26.3	-31.9	75.3	8	10
U.S.	12.0	23.9	-35.9	70.3	9	9
Foreign	2.3	13.3	-27.4	30.4	5	13
RICE (Milled)						
World	2.4	7.8	-21.8	11.4	13	5
U.S.	6.2	0.3	-1.0	0.5	11	7
Foreign	2.4	7.8	-22.0	11.2	13	5
SOYBEANS						
World	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
U.S.	7.7	4.1	-11.3	12.0	10	8
Foreign	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
		---Million 480-lb. bales---				
COTTON						
World	5.0	4.2	-13.7	11.4	11	7
U.S.	10.0	1.4	-2.8	3.1	8	10
Foreign	5.1	3.5	-12.2	10.5	10	8
UNITED STATES		*-------Million bushels-------*				
CORN	12.7	833	-1,378	2,379	7	11
SORGHUM	15.1	107	-228	171	9	9
BARLEY	9.8	39	-73	206	7	11
OATS	17.7	50	-77	231	4	14

1/ The final estimate for 1981/82-1997/98 is defined as the first November estimate following the marketing year.

2/ May not total 18 if projection was the same as the final.

3/ Includes corn, sorghum, barley, oats, rye, millet, and mixed grain.

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division, FAS, USDA

MAP 1

WORLD AGRICULTURAL WEATHER HIGHLIGHTS

May 12, 1999

1 - UNITED STATES

During April, cool conditions prevailed in the West, slowing the development of winter wheat and spring-sown crops. Near- to above-normal temperatures promoted crop development from the Plains to the East Coast. However, heavy precipitation soaked the Plains and the western Corn Belt, slowing spring planting. More favorable conditions permitted a faster planting pace across the eastern Corn Belt. In late April, beneficial showers overspread the Southeast, including Florida, reducing the risk of wildfires and aiding winter grains, pastures, and spring crops. Unfavorably warm, dry weather persisted, however, across southern Texas. In the Southwest, early-month precipitation provided temporary relief from winter dryness.

2 - CANADA

Spring grain and oilseed planting has slowly begun across the Prairies. Nearly all major crop areas have received rain in the past 2 weeks, improving prospects for uniform germination. Warmer, drier weather is now needed to increase the pace of fieldwork. In Ontario, drier- and warmer-than-normal weather has increased growth rates of winter wheat and encouraged farmers to proceed with early corn and soybean sowing.

3 - SOUTH AMERICA

In central Argentina, very heavy mid-April showers delayed fieldwork and damaged summer crops in southern Cordoba and Santa Fe. Furthermore, mid-April frost possibly caused some additional damage to immature cotton and soybeans. In southern Brazil, drier weather during mid- to late-April favored soybean harvesting, after wet weather slowed fieldwork earlier in the month.

4 - EUROPE

Rain in late April in Spain came too late to improve prospects for drought-stressed winter grains in the south but improved prospects for spring-planted crops. Near- to above-normal precipitation over the remainder of Europe in April provided adequate topsoil moisture for spring grain and summer crop emergence. Recent rains delayed corn planting in southwestern France, while unseasonably cold weather slowed crop development in eastern Europe.

USDA/OCE - World Agricultural Outlook Board
Joint Agricultural Weather Facility

(More details are available in the Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin. Subscription information may be obtained by calling (202) 720-7917.)

5 - FSU-WESTERN

Unseasonably mild weather in April promoted rapid winter grain growth and raised soil temperatures for spring planting activities. Periodic dryness allowed spring grain and early summer crop planting to progress ahead of last year's pace. Since early May, sub-freezing temperatures as far south as Ukraine and southern Russia had little impact on jointing winter grains but may have caused some damage to newly-emerged spring grains.

6 - NORTHWESTERN AFRICA

In April, unseasonably warm, dry weather in Morocco and western Algeria hastened maturity in winter grains. Farther east, below-normal precipitation in eastern Algeria and Tunisia limited moisture for crops in the filling stage.

7 - SOUTH AFRICA

Autumn fieldwork has made good progress due to the general trend of mostly dry, warmer-than-normal weather. Harvesting of corn and other summer crops, including coastal sugarcane, is expanding. Wheat planting is also underway in Western Cape and the corn belt, following beneficial rain in late April. The rain in the southwest broke a heat wave that taxed irrigation reserves in important orchard and vineyard areas.

8 - EASTERN ASIA

In the North China Plain, below-normal April and early-May rainfall in Hebei and Shandong stressed vegetative to reproductive rainfed winter wheat and slowed summer crop planting. The remaining crop areas received near-normal April rainfall. Spring wheat and summer crop planting began in Manchuria. Near- to above normal April rainfall continued to provide adequate moisture across the Yangtze Valley and southeastern China for early rice and summer crop development.

9 - SOUTHEAST ASIA

Consistent rainfall during late-April and early-May signaled the start of the rainy season across Indochina, boosting moisture supplies for the upcoming main-season rice crops. Above-normal showers persisted into April across the eastern Philippines, slowing second-crop grain harvesting. Variable April showers prevailed across the oil palm areas of peninsular Malaysia. Below-normal April rainfall favored main-season rice harvesting in Java, Indonesia.

10 - AUSTRALIA

Favorably drier, albeit cool weather has dominated the east for the past 4 weeks, allowing cotton and sorghum harvests to advance towards completion. Wheat and barley planting is currently underway, spurred along in Queensland, New South Wales, and Western Australia by favorable long-term moisture reserves. Rain will be needed in the southeast before winter grain planting can become widespread.

May normal crop calendar

Summer crops

Canada
Small Grains & Rapeseed:
Planting

Europe
Corn: Planting
Sunflowers: Planting
Sugarbeets: Planting (Germany)

Former Soviet Union
Corn, Sunflowers, &
Sugarbeets: Planting
Small Grains: Vegetative (West);
Planting (East)
Cotton: Planting (Central Asia)

United States
Corn & Sorghum: Planting
Soybeans: Planting
Small Grains: Planting

China
Corn, Cotton, &
Soybeans: Planting
Early Rice: Heading *
Single Rice: Planting

West Africa
Coarse Grain, Rice:
Planting (Coast & Sahel)
Cocoa: Flowering*

Middle East & Egypt
Cotton: Planting

Mexico
Sorghum & Corn: Planting
Citrus & Sugarcane: Planting

East Africa
Maize, Sorghum: Planting
(Kenya, Ethiopia)
Grains: Planting (Sudan)
Small Grains: Planting
(Ethiopia)
Belg (minor) Grain:
Reproductive * (Ethiopia)

Southeast Asia
Rice & Corn: Planting

Brazil
Citrus & Sugarcane: Harvesting
Cotton & Soybeans: Harvesting

Argentina
Corn, Soybeans, &
Cotton: Harvesting

South Africa
Corn: Harvesting

Australia
Cotton & Sorghum: Harvesting

Winter crops

Europe
Grains:
Heading (France, Romania) *;
Maturing (Spain)
Rapeseed:
Flowering (England, Poland) *

Former Soviet Union
Grains: Vegetative (North);
Heading (South)

United States
Grains: Heading *

China
Grains: Filling

Northwest Africa
Grains: Harvesting

Middle East & Egypt
Wheat: Heading *
(North) to
Harvesting (South)

Mexico
Wheat: Harvesting
Vegetables: Harvesting

Brazil
Wheat: Planting

South Africa
Wheat: Planting

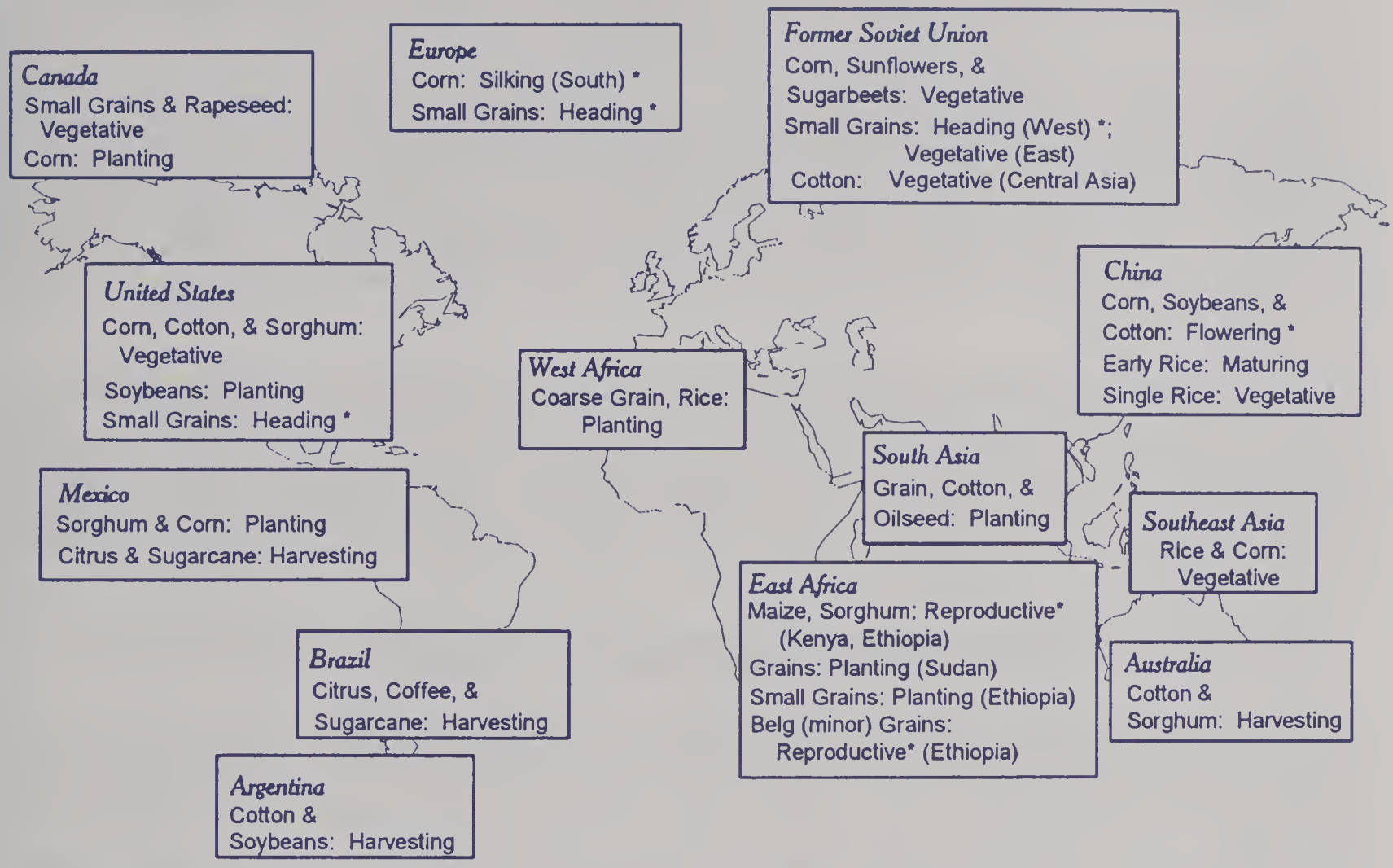
Australia
Wheat: Planting

* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

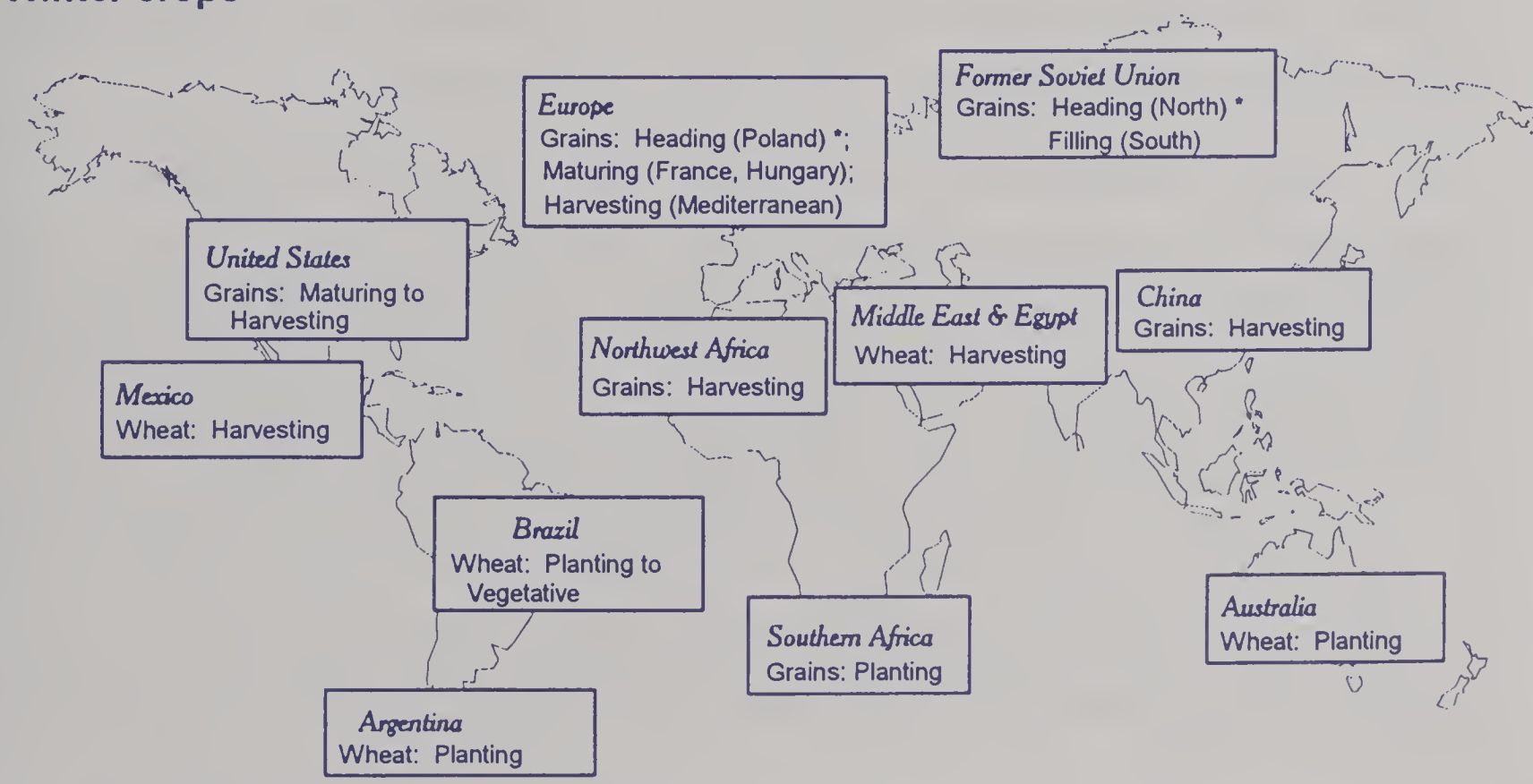
JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

June normal crop calendar

Summer crops



Winter crops



* Moisture / Temperature Sensitive Stage of Development

JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY (NOAA/USDA)

WEATHER BRIEFS

ARGENTINA: HEAVY RAINFALL AND FREEZE CAUSE CONCERN FOR LATE SOYBEANS

During the week of April 24, very heavy showers caused flooding and possibly crop damage to soybeans in central and southern Santa Fe, southern Cordoba, and northern La Pampa. Lighter amounts fell elsewhere in the main summer crop areas. A week earlier localized freezing temperatures had caused some damage to filling second-crop soybeans in central Argentina. According to reports as of April 30, Argentine soybeans were 33 percent harvested, compared with 31 percent a year ago.

Heavy rains fell across the northern Argentine cotton areas of Santa Fe, Santiago del Estero, Formosa, and Chaco, during the week of April 11. This excessive moisture slowed cotton harvesting and possibly caused some crop damage and quality concerns. Drier weather in early May favored cotton harvesting. As of April 30, about 21 percent of the cotton crop was reported as harvested, on par with last year.

SOUTHERN BRAZIL: SHOWERS SLOWED LATE SUMMER CROP HARVESTING

Heavy rains fell across southern Brazil during the period from mid-April to early May, slowing soybean harvesting and causing some localized flooding. However, drier weather prevailed during the first part of April, favoring harvest. Temperatures during the second-half of April and early May, averaged 1 to 3 degrees C above normal. According to reports as of April 30, Brazilian soybeans were 88 percent harvested, compared to 87 percent during this same period last year. Harvesting was 72 percent complete in Rio Grande do Sul, compared to 70 percent last year. In the other major soybean-producing states, harvesting was more than 90 percent complete.

CHINA: WINTER WHEAT STRESSED BY DRY AND HOT WEATHER.

Unseasonably dry, hot weather (1 to 3 degrees C above normal) during April and early May stressed the rainfed winter wheat crop on the North China Plain. The weather in this region has been unusually dry since Fall 1998. The impact was greatest in Shandong, Hebei, and Shanxi Provinces, which account for more than 30 percent of China's winter wheat crop. The dryness also reduced water supplies for irrigated wheat and summer crops in the region. Recent scattered showers and cooler temperatures have improved the growing conditions for the wheat, now in the grain-fill stage, but it may have come too late to boost yields significantly. Crop conditions have been more favorable for the wheat crop in the central and eastern Provinces of Henan, Anhui, and Jiangsu, which recorded near-normal rainfall and temperatures this spring. Good wheat yields are forecast in these provinces. Planting for spring wheat was delayed in parts of Manchuria and Inner Mongolia by cold and wet weather in March, but conditions in April and May were favorably warm and moist for germination and vegetative growth.

PRODUCTION BRIEFS

ARGENTINA: CORN PRODUCTION ESTIMATE FOR 1998/99 REDUCED

Argentina's 1998/99 corn production is estimated at 14.0 million tons, down 0.5 million tons from last month and down 28 percent from last year's record crop. Harvested area is down 0.1 million hectares to 2.8 million, while yield is unchanged at 5 tons per hectare. In April, heavy rains fell in parts of Santa Fe, Cordoba, and northern La Pampa causing flooding. The Argentine Agricultural Secretariat reports that some corn areas were turned over to feedlot use and forage. As of late April, harvest was 50 percent complete and total area reduction (from planted area) was about 500,000 hectares. The harvest pace is recovering following recent drier weather.

ARGENTINA: OILSEED PRODUCTION REDUCED BY FROST AND RAIN

Argentina's 1998/99 oilseed production is estimated at 25.9 million tons, down 0.6 million or 2 percent from last month. Area is revised downward by 0.2 million hectares to an estimated 12.0 million to reflect frost damage and heavy rainfall. An unusual-heavy frost occurred April 17 in the northern Provinces of Chaco, Santiago del Estero, and Santa Fe. Additionally, heavy rainfall (100-250 mm) during the period April 24-26 caused some localized flooding in the Provinces of Santa Fe, eastern Cordoba, and northern La Pampa . Soybean production is estimated 0.2 million tons lower at 18.5 million; sunflowerseed is estimated 0.2 million tons lower at 6.5 million; cottonseed is estimated 120,000 tons lower at 430,000 tons; and peanuts are estimated 80,000 tons lower at 480,000 tons.

ARGENTINA: COTTON OUTPUT REDUCED DUE TO UNFAVORABLE WEATHER

Argentina's 1998/99 cotton production is estimated at 1.1 million bales, down 0.3 million or 21 percent from last month and 19 percent below last year's crop. The area estimate is reduced from 0.72 million hectares to 0.65 million. Yield potential has dropped significantly because of adverse weather. Periods of heavy rainfall, excessive wetness and persistent cloudiness in Chaco, Formosa, and Santiago del Estero caused weed infestation and rotting of most of the lower bolls. In addition, a widespread frost that occurred in mid-April restricted crop development. The frost occurred 40 to 45 days earlier than expected. Cotton sown after mid-December is believed to be affected, the most. The Argentine Agricultural Secretariat reports that 24 percent of the crop was harvested as of late April. Estimated frost-related area reductions, by province, are as follows: 15,000 hectares in Chaco, 10,500 in Formosa and 30,000 hectares in Santiago del Estero.

UNITED STATES: CROP CONDITION AND PROGRESS

The month began with heavy rains that halted fieldwork and eroded hillsides in the lower Mississippi Valley and adjacent areas of the southern Great Plains and middle Mississippi Valley. Rain in the Southwest and several inches of snow in the northern Great Plains eased moisture shortages, but soils remained abnormally dry in many areas of both regions. Light rainfall moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage and fertilizing in parts of the Southeast, lower Ohio Valley, Corn Belt, and Southwest. Below-normal temperatures hindered crop development in the central and northern High Plains, and California. Coastal areas of the Pacific Northwest remained cold and rainy, adversely affecting crop conditions and promoting diseases. A combination of heat and dry weather triggered wildfires in Florida.

During the second week of the month, strong thunderstorms delivered soaking rains, spawned tornadoes, and halted fieldwork in the western Corn Belt. Adjacent areas of the Great Plains, eastern Corn Belt, and Great Lakes received lighter showers that moistened soils and temporarily delayed spring tillage. Warm weather in the southern Plains, lower Mississippi Valley, and Southeast promoted rapid development of winter wheat and early row crops. In the lower Mississippi Valley, wet soils and additional showers continued to limit fieldwork and planting. The Southeast, Atlantic Coastal Plains, and most of the Great Plains were dry, promoting tillage and fertilizing operations, but disrupting planting. Cold weather slowed crop development and delayed planting along the Pacific Coast, especially in California.

A mid-month cold front pushed southward through the Great Plains, freezing maturing wheat fields in the southern Great Plains and halting development in the central and northern Great Plains. Hail associated with a line of severe storms also caused crop damage in the southern Great Plains. Persistent showers limited fieldwork and prevented row crop planting in most of the Corn Belt and central Great Plains. Dry conditions along the Ohio River Valley in the southern Corn Belt and Atlantic Coastal Plains permitted steady fieldwork and planting accelerated. Dry weather aided fieldwork and small grain seeding, while sunny skies improved wheat development in parts of the northern Great Plains, northern Rocky Mountains, and Pacific Northwest. Soils remained wet in North Dakota and western Minnesota due to poor drying conditions, while some areas of the Pacific Northwest needed rain to germinate seeds. Warmer weather encouraged planting and aided crop development in the Southwest.

Later in the month, heavy rains halted fieldwork in the northern Corn Belt, and lighter rainfall limited progress in other areas of the Corn Belt. In the southern Great Plains, a line of thunderstorms delivered brief downpours that increased soil moisture levels and aided crop development. Hail and isolated flooding associated with the thunderstorms damaged some wheat in Oklahoma. In the Southeast and Atlantic Coastal Plains, continued dry weather aided fieldwork, but discouraged planting and hindered crop emergence. Planting and field preparations accelerated in the lower Mississippi Valley, as warm, windy weather rapidly dried wet soils. Dry, sunny weather favored fieldwork and small grain seeding in the northern Great Plains. Dry soils stressed winter wheat in the Pacific Northwest, while warm, dry weather in California promoted crop development, and field activities rapidly progressed. A slow-moving upper-level low pressure system over the Great Basin produced a mixture of precipitation that replenished topsoil moisture in parts of the central High Plains and Rockies.

As the end of the month approached, heavy rains halted fieldwork and planting in the High Plains, parts of eastern Kansas and Oklahoma, and adjacent areas of southern Missouri. Heavy rains ended excessive dryness in parts of the Atlantic Coastal Plains and eased drought conditions in southern Florida. Lighter precipitation hampered field activities in the southern Appalachians and the Tennessee, lower Ohio, and middle Mississippi Valleys. Dry conditions aided planting in the eastern and northern Corn Belt, northern Great Plains, and Southwest. Excessive dryness delayed planting and hindered emergence and growth in parts of the Gulf Coast region and adjacent inland areas of the Southeast and lower Mississippi Valley. Below-normal temperatures hindered winter wheat development and emergence of other small grains and row crops in the central and southern Great Plains and most of the Corn Belt. Above-normal temperatures promoted crop emergence and development in the northern Great Plains and Great Lakes States, but dry soils hindered crop emergence. In California, cool weather, scattered showers, and strong winds caused minor planting delays.

When the month ended, planting of most major field crops was behind normal. One-fifth of the corn acreage was planted compared with nearly one-third for the 5-year average. Cotton, sorghum, and peanut planting was several days behind normal, while soybean and rice planting was only slightly behind the average. Seeding of small grains was well ahead of normal as the month ended and emergence was slightly ahead of normal. Winter wheat development was also ahead of the normal as the month ended, with more than one-fourth of the crop headed. Harvesting began in southern Texas and fields were rapidly maturing in central and eastern Texas.

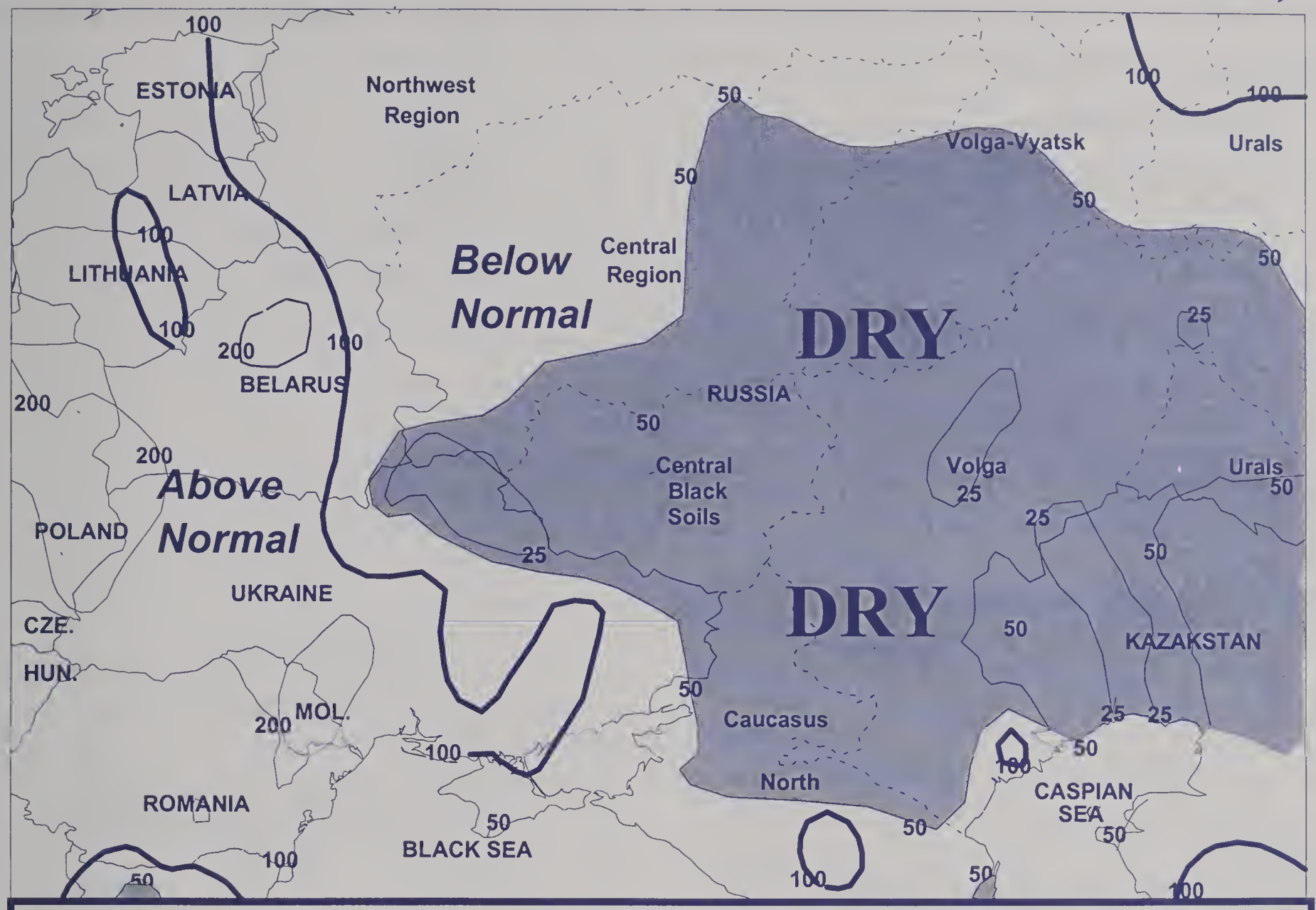
FORMER SOVIET UNION: WEATHER AND CROP DEVELOPMENTS

In April, unseasonably mild weather prevailed over Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics, promoting rapid growth of winter grains and raising soil temperatures for spring planting activities. Monthly temperatures averaged 2 to 4 degrees C above normal in Ukraine and southern Russia and 3 to 5 degrees C above normal in northern Russia, Belarus, and the Baltics. Winter grains broke dormancy in northern Russia about 1 week earlier than usual and advanced into the jointing stage of development in Ukraine and southern Russia. Below-normal precipitation in Russia and eastern Ukraine allowed spring grain planting to advance rapidly northward during the month. Although above-normal precipitation fell in southern and western Ukraine, Belarus, and the Baltics, periodic dryness allowed planting activities to progress without delays. At month's end, winter grains were jointing throughout most of the region. Spring grain planting was reportedly progressing ahead of last year's pace, with corn, sunflower, and sugar beet planting well underway in Ukraine and southern Russia. In early May, unseasonably cold weather pushed southward over the region, halting fieldwork and slowing crop development. On several days, minimum temperatures fell below freezing as far south as southern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus region in Russia. Lowest weekly temperatures ranged from -2 to -6 degrees C in these areas. Overall, temperatures did not fall low enough to threaten winter grains in the jointing stage. However, the freeze likely caused some damage to newly emerged summer crops, especially in the central Black Soils Region in Russia and the northeastern Ukraine, where nighttime lows ranged from -4 to -6 degrees C. Soils are becoming unfavorably dry in the northern North Caucasus region, Volga Valley, and the eastern portion of the Central Black Soils region, where dry weather has persisted since the middle of March.

In crop areas east of the Urals, spring grain planting usually begins in May. In April, unusually warm, dry weather during the second half of the month helped to condition soils for early season fieldwork. Moisture accumulations since last fall have been near to above normal in Russia and major growing areas in Kazakstan, boosting soil moisture conditions for the upcoming growing season. Recently, showers accompanied unseasonably cold weather in the southern Urals and western Kazakstan, slowing early spring fieldwork. Mild weather accompanied several days of dryness in Western Siberia and eastern Kazakstan, allowing early fieldwork activities.

Tom Puterbaugh (202) 720-2012

FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)



(NOAA/USDA Joint Agricultural Weather Facility)

Percent of Normal Precipitation for April 1999

Less than 50 percent of normal is shaded. Based on preliminary reports.

WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 12, 1999

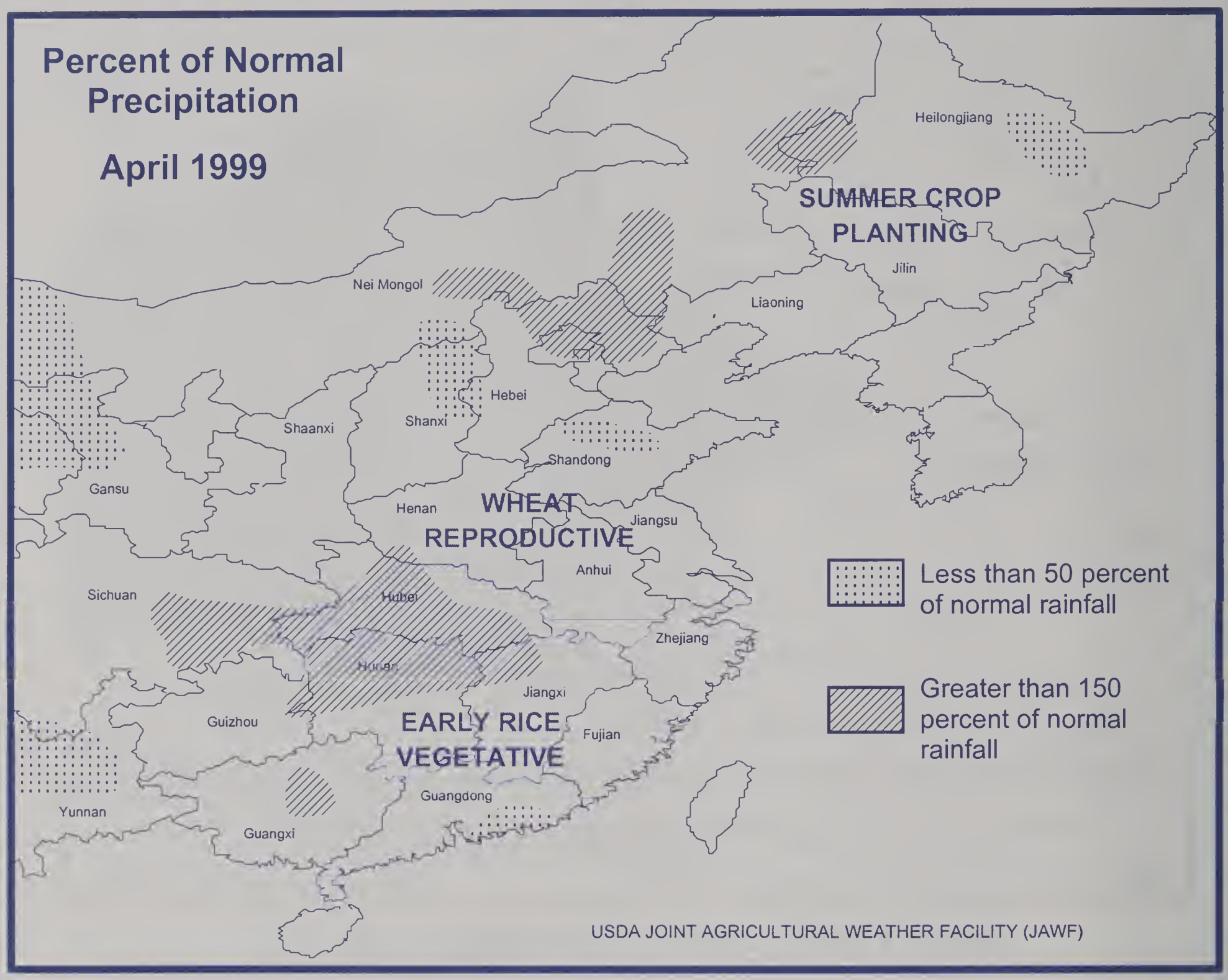
- In April, unseasonably warm weather promoted rapid growth of winter grains. Mostly dry weather in Russia and eastern Ukraine favored rapid spring grain and early summer crop planting.

- By the end of April, winter wheat was jointing as far north as northern Russia. Planting of spring grains and summer crops in Ukraine and Russia was progressing well ahead of last year's pace.

- In early May, sub-freezing temperatures were observed as far south as southern Ukraine and the northern tip of the North Caucasus region in Russia. While temperatures did not drop low enough to pose a threat to winter grains, some damage to newly-emerged summer crops likely occurred.

MAP 5

CHINA



WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

MAY 12, 1999

- In the North China Plain, below-normal April and early-May rainfall in Hebei and Shandong stressed vegetative to reproductive rainfed winter wheat and slowed summer crop planting. The remaining crop areas in the North China Plain received near-normal April rainfall. Seasonably warmer weather and below-normal April rainfall allowed spring wheat and summer crop planting to commence in Manchuria.

- Near- to above-normal April rainfall continued to provided adequate moisture in the Yangtze Valley and southeastern China for early rice and summer crop development.

FEATURE COMMODITY ARTICLES

INDICATIONS FOR 1999/2000 WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION

World cotton production for 1999/00 is projected at 87.0 million bales, 2.9 million higher than the 84.1 million estimated for 1998/99. For the 1998/99 and 1997/98 seasons, China, India, and Pakistan had mixed results during their growing seasons. This is in contrast to the 1996/97 season when India and Pakistan had more favorable weather and reduced disease and pest problems. For 1995/96 it was these countries that helped push total world production to 93.0 million bales, the second largest crop in history. This output propelled ending-stocks to the highest level since 1991/92. More-than-adequate stock levels together with the more recent world economic events in 1997/98 and 1998/99 have caused world cotton prices to continue their decline from 1994/95 when the cotton A-Index reached an yearly average of 91.4 cents pre pound.

Cotton prices also declined during 1997/98 due to excess production which outpaced consumption. The converse was true for 1998/99 as production fell more than consumption. The average cotton A-Index from August 1998 through April 1999 was nearly15 cents per pound lower than for the same period a year earlier. The current drop in cotton prices is due both to a decline in consumption, precipitated by the East Asia economic crisis and to China's shift from a net importer to a net exporter this season.

In China, 1999/00 output of cotton will likely drop from the current year's production of 4.4 million tons or 20.2 million bales. The Chinese Government is working hard to bring down area and production: the Minister of Agriculture, announced that the target for reductions will be 3.5 million tons or 16.1 million bales, nearly 4.0 million bales lower than 1998/99. The Government hopes to achieve the reductions through a drop in the procurement price for cotton. Reductions in cotton output are expected to be the greatest in the Yellow River Basin, where input costs are high and pest problems severe. Smaller reductions are expected in the Yangtze River Basin, while none are planned in Xinjiang. As part of the effort to reduce cotton planted area, the Government has announced many reforms in cotton procurement policies. The most important of these reforms are the liberalization of cotton prices beginning in September 1999, and the liberalization of procurement. The liberalization will theoretically allow mills to purchase cotton directly from farmers in competition with the Government's Cotton and Jute Corporation (C&J). However, many officials in both the national and provincial governments are pessimistic about the Government's ability to reduce planted area. Even at lower prices, cotton remains the best cash-earning crop for farmers in many parts of China. As for direct farm-to-mill purchase, C&J has an enormous advantage in cotton procurement experience, and a monopoly on cotton ginning facilities, extensive storage facilities, and a longstanding relationship with farmers.

In India, weak cotton prices are expected to result in lower output for 1999/00. Low prices, pest/disease problems, and adverse harvest weather (especially in northern India) have caused major financial setbacks to cotton producers in 1998/99. As a result, producers are expected to reduce 1999/00 cotton area to below the record 1998/99 of 9.2 million hectares. Assuming a timely monsoon and normal weather, outyear production is projected below 1998/99 estimated 12.9 million bales. Current prices of popular cotton varieties have been 5 to 10 percent below

the 1997/98 level due to a recession in the Indian textile industry. Despite the early announcement of the 1998/99 export quota of 400,000 bales, exports have been negligible due to low international prices. Poor returns from the 1998/99 crop will particularly affect planting in northern India where farmers have suffered heavy financial losses due to two consecutive years of low yields caused by adverse weather and pests. The shift away from cotton is expected to be less pronounced in other regions where yields have been less affected by these problems.

Cotton output in Pakistan for 1999/00 is expected to be slightly higher than this season, when production dropped to 6.3 million bales. This estimate is 0.9 million bales less than last year and is the lowest production since 1994/95 of slightly less than 6.3 million bales when the crop was reduced by leaf curl virus and white fly. The lower output for the current year is supported by cotton gin arrival data which revealed a 13-percent lag behind last season's arrivals for the same period. This indicates that late-season production losses were greater than expected, though under reporting by gin operators has contributed somewhat to the reduction in arrivals. Cotton area for 1999/00 is forecast to be about 2.9 million hectares, unchanged from 1998/99 as the continued poor returns for cotton are mitigated by government initiatives supporting cotton production. Given the current low world prices and the strong demand from the domestic textile industry for imported cotton, producer profits for 1999/00 are not expected to recover from the 1998/99 season. On the other hand, the Government of Pakistan plans wide-scale distribution of new insect and virus-tolerant cotton varieties in time for the 1999/00 planting season.

Sugarcane farmers are continuing to have payment problems, thus limiting area shifts from cotton. Cotton yield is expected to average between 500 to 600 kilograms per hectare. This is based on increased planting of tolerant varieties, adequate fertilizer application and the availability of better quality pesticides. However, these agronomic factors were present for last year's crop.

In the United States, cotton production is forecast at 18.0 million bales, up 4.1 million or 29 percent from 1998/99. This estimate assumes historical average abandonment and yields per harvested are that are slightly below trend. A total 5.6 million hectares, 4 percent above 1998/99 are expected to be sown for 1999/00. The Delta shows a 9-percent increase, while the Southeast region expects a 7-percent increase from 1998/99. Producers in Texas and Oklahoma intend to plant 2 percent more area than in 1998/99. Although California growers intend to plant 20,234 more hectares of American-Pima cotton in 1999/00, the U.S. Pima acreage is down 7-percent, at 123,511 hectares from last year. As of May 2, cotton planting progress was slower than the five-year average of 28 percent. However, beneficial rains occurred recently in Texas and the Southeast and warmer weather was experienced in California.

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TABLE 20

World Cotton: Area, Yield, and Production

Year	Area	Yield	Production
	1,000 Hectares	Kilograms per Hectare	1,000 Bales
1988/89	33,814	543	84,357
1989/90	31,553	550	79,676
1990/91	33,156	572	87,069
1991/92	34,787	599	95,754
1992/93	32,631	551	82,507
1993/94	30,710	546	77,051
1994/95	32,176	581	85,859
1995/96	35,941	564	93,042
1996/97	33,785	577	89,557
1997/98	33,555	594	91,595
1998/99	32,683	560	84,068
5-Year Avg.	33,631	575	88,824
1999/00 Forecast	33,000	574	87,000

NOTE: Forecast information in this article is based on recent field reports from U. S. agricultural counselors and attaches, together with information from USDA Washington analysts. Actual production and area could vary from these estimates for a number of reasons, including government policy changes, weather during the crop season, and price changes for cotton and competing crops. Individual country estimates for 1999/00 area, yield, and production will be released in July of this year.

1999/2000 WORLD GRAIN OUTLOOK

World grain production (wheat, coarse grains, and rice) for 1999/00 is forecast at 1,845.8 million tons, up 0.5 million or virtually unchanged from 1998/99. World wheat production is forecast at 572.4 million tons, down 2.6 million or 16 percent from last year. In the United States, reduced wheat area and prospective yield caused production to fall to 61.1 million tons, down 12 percent from last year. China's wheat output is projected lower than last season at 106.0 million tons due to drought in the eastern North China Plain. Also, Morocco, Syria, and Iran wheat output is down from 1998/99 due to drought and the EU-15 wheat crop is reduced due to higher set aside and variable weather. Canada, Australia, India, Argentina, Kazakstan, Ukraine, and Russia's wheat production are projected to be higher this season. The Russian and Kazakstan wheat crops are expected to recover from severe 1998/99 drought conditions, while India is projected to produce a record crop.

World 1999/00 coarse grain production is forecast at 884.7 million tons, up 6.9 million or 1 percent from 1998/99 due mainly to increases in China, Russia, many Eastern European countries, and Argentina. The United States, Kazakstan, EU-15, and Canada are projected to have less coarse grains output this season. World corn production is forecast at a record level for 1999/00 as China's corn crop is projected to be a record.

World barley production continues to decline to its lowest level in 24 years as decreases in the EU-15, Morocco, and several Middle East countries more than offset a recovery in yield prospects in Russia. World oat production is forecast higher due mainly to increases in the EU-15 and Russia.

World 1999/00 rice production is forecast at a record 388.8 million tons, up 9.2 million or 2 percent from 1998/99 due to record prospects in both the United States and the total foreign category. Record or near record output is expected in the major producing countries, while larger crops are likely in the major foreign exporters. This assumes normal weather and a continued increase in the adoption of improved technologies. Also, world rice area is likely to be up from1998/99 due to normal expansion and recovery from inclement weather in some countries. Country level supply and distribution estimates will be detailed for rice in July1999.

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CHART1

World Wheat Output Decreases

- Production down 15.6 MMT or 3 percent
- Yield down marginally
- Area down 2 percent

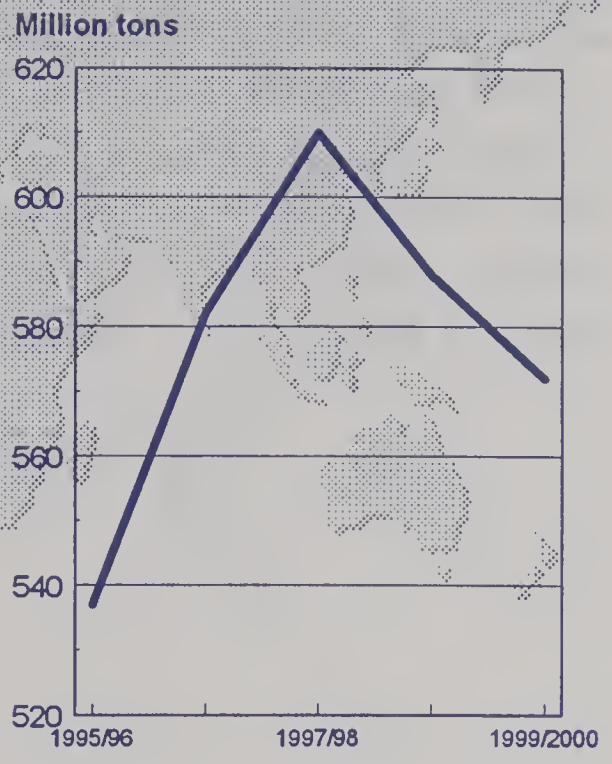


CHART2

World Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Production up 6.9 MMT or 1 percent
- Yield up 1 percent
- Area down 1 percent

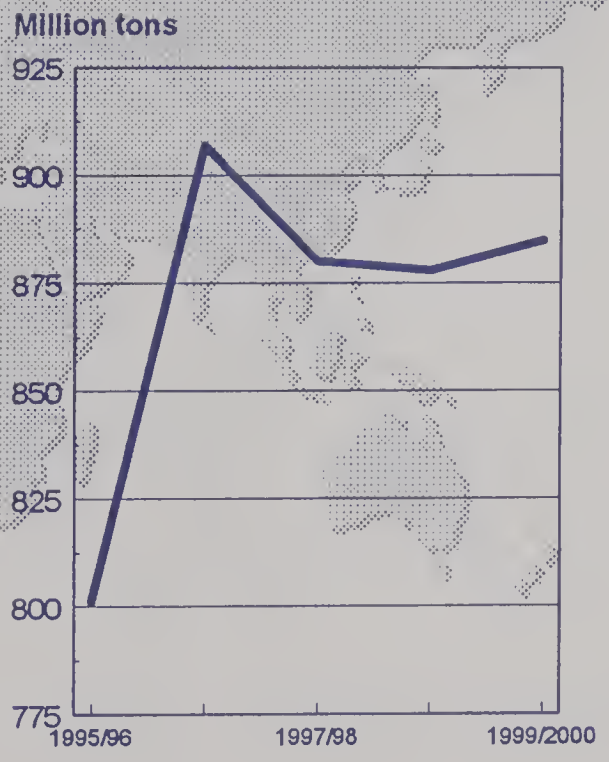


CHART3

World Rice Output at Record Level

- Country level estimates to be released in July
- Total foreign output up 8.6 MMT
- Total world production up 9.2 MMT

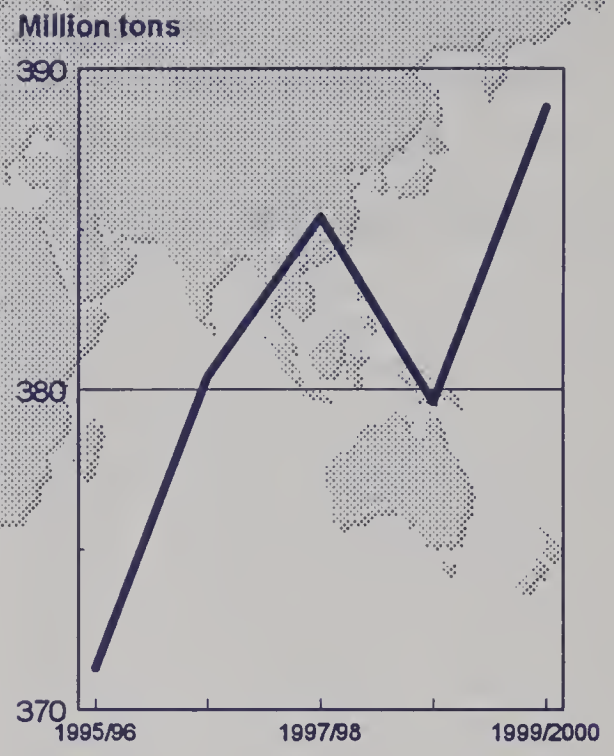


CHART4

Total Foreign Rice Output Record Level

- Production up 8.6 MMT or 2 percent

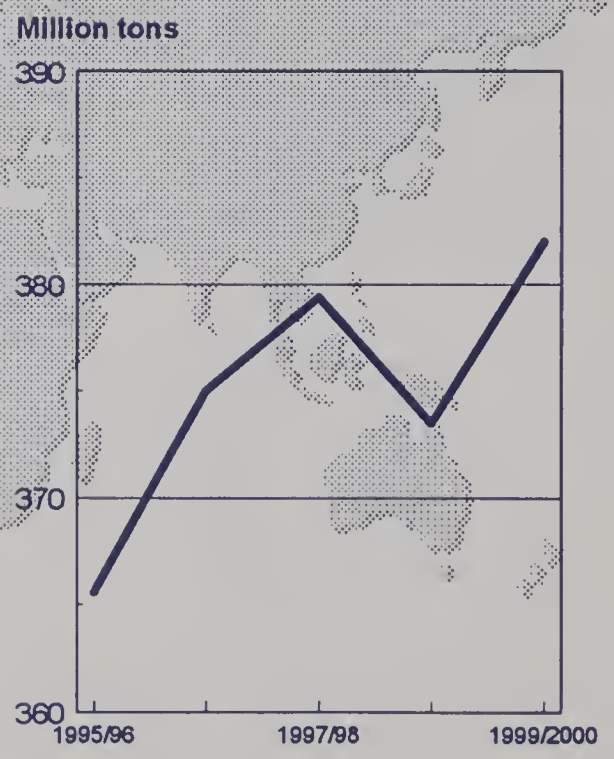


CHART5

Total Foreign Wheat Output Lower

- Production down 7.3 MMT or 1 percent
- Yield up marginally
- Area down 2 percent

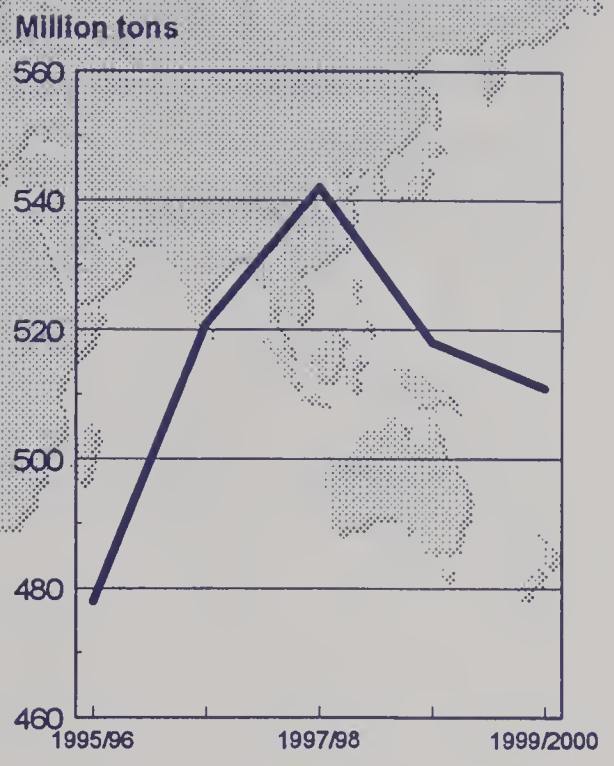
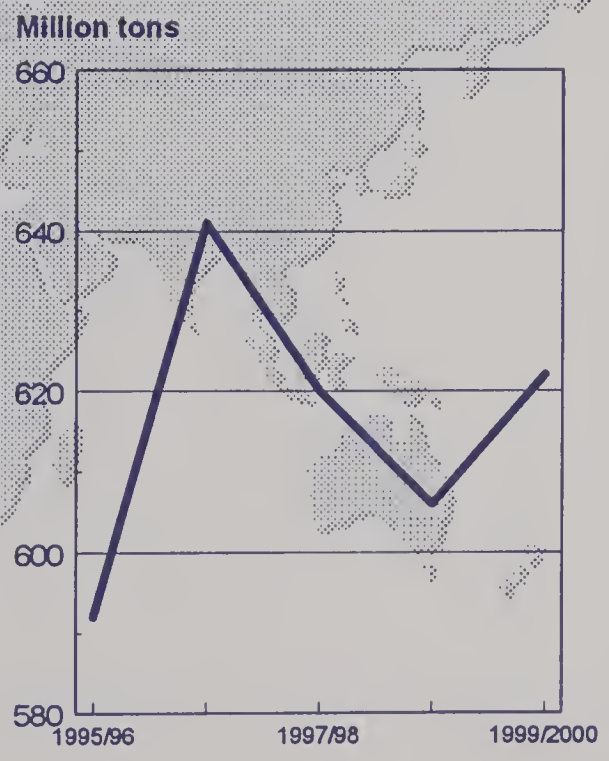


CHART6

Total Foreign Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Production up 16.1 MMT or 3 percent
- Yield up 4 percent
- Area down 1 percent



United States Rice at Record Level

- Production up 0.6 MMT or 10 percent
- Yield up 3 percent
- Area up 7 percent

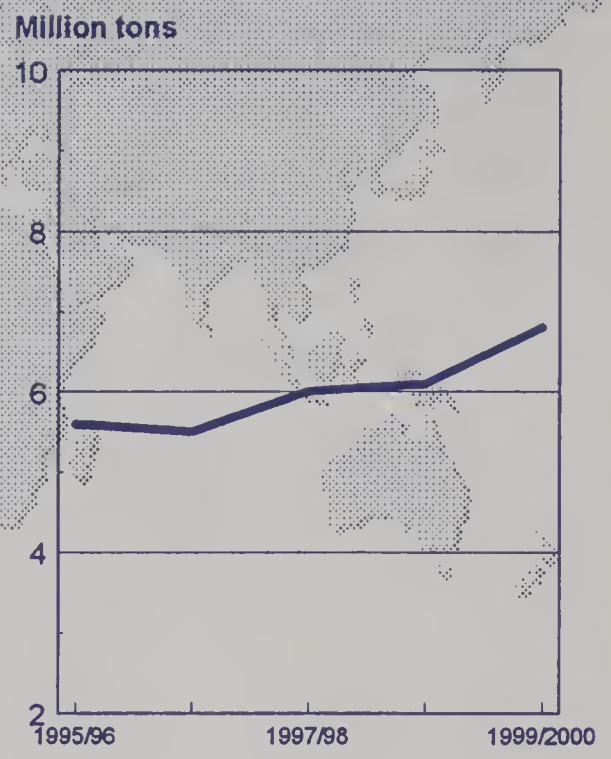


CHART8

United States Wheat Output Decreases

- Production down 8.3 MMT or 12 percent
- Yield down 6 percent
- Area down 6 percent

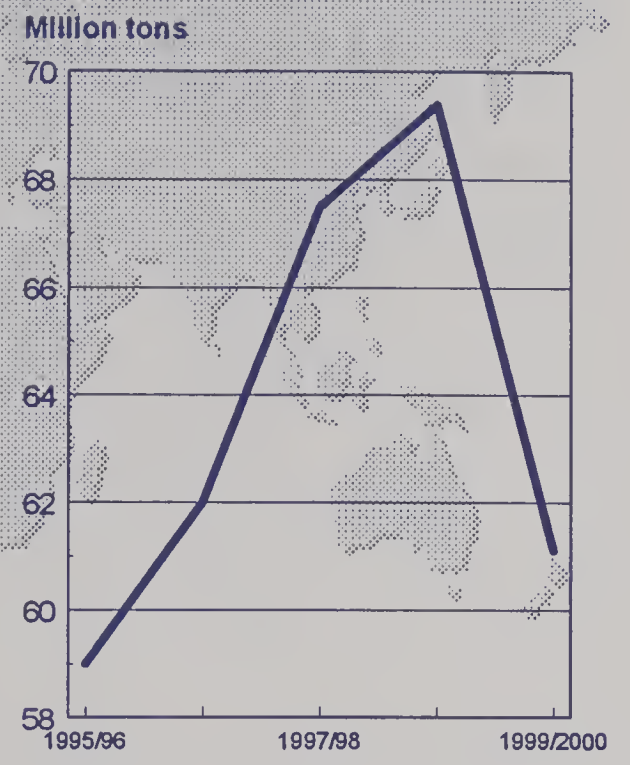


CHART9

United States Coarse Grain Output Decreases

- Production down 9.2 MMT or 3 percent
- Yield down 1 percent
- Area down 2 percent
- Lower crops for corn, sorghum, and barley

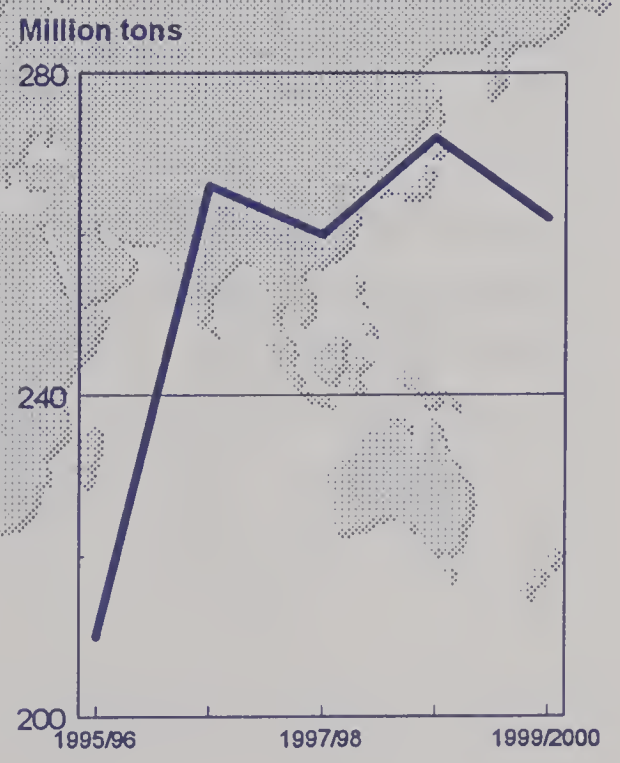


CHART10

EU Wheat Output Falls

- Production down8 MMT or 8 percent
- Yield down 4percent
- Area down 5 percent

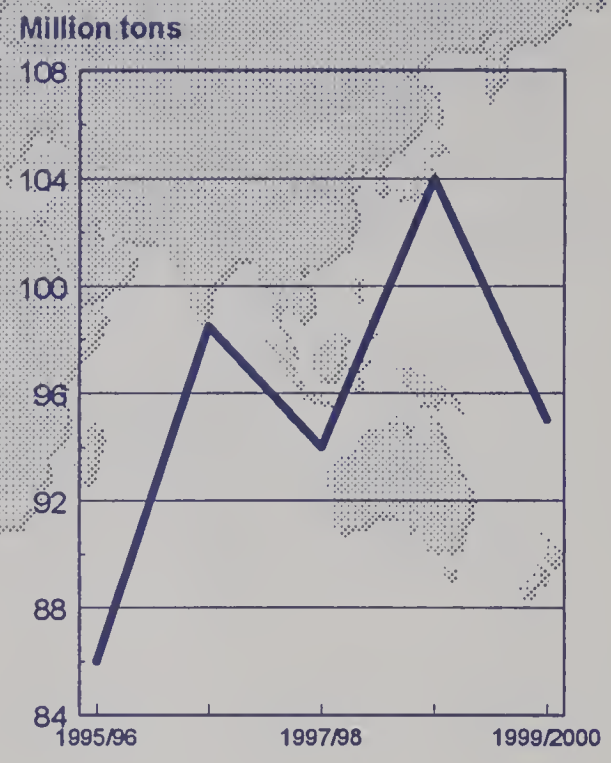


CHART11

EU Coarse Grain Output Lower

- Production down 2.5 MMT or 2 percent
- Yield up 4 percent
- Area down 6 percent
- Lower barley and rye more than offset larger corn and oats crops

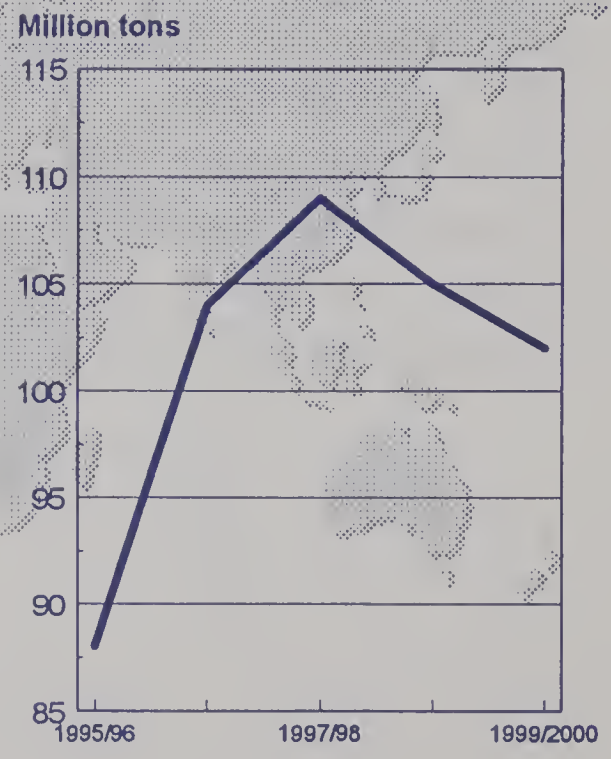


CHART12

Australia Wheat Output Increases

- Production up 1 MMT or 5 percent
- Yield near average
- Area up slightly

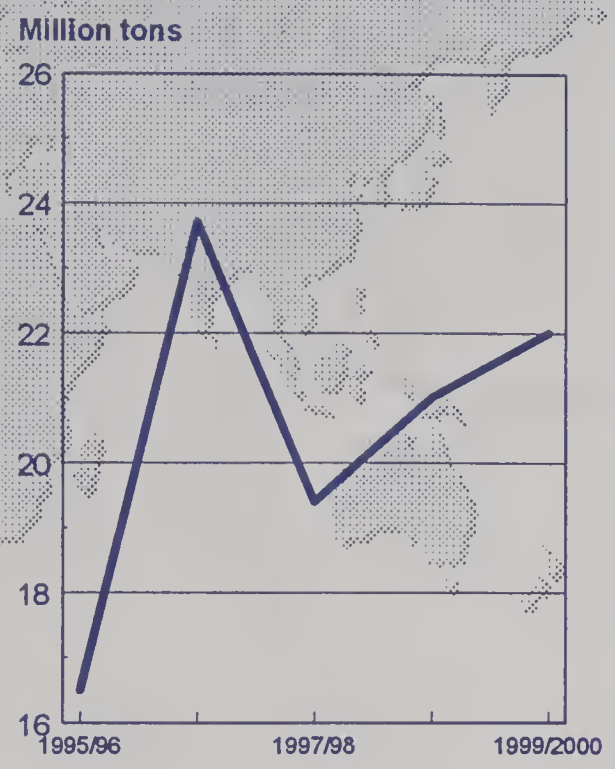


CHART13

Australia Coarse Grain Output Falls

- Production down slightly
- Yield unchanged
- Area down 6 percent

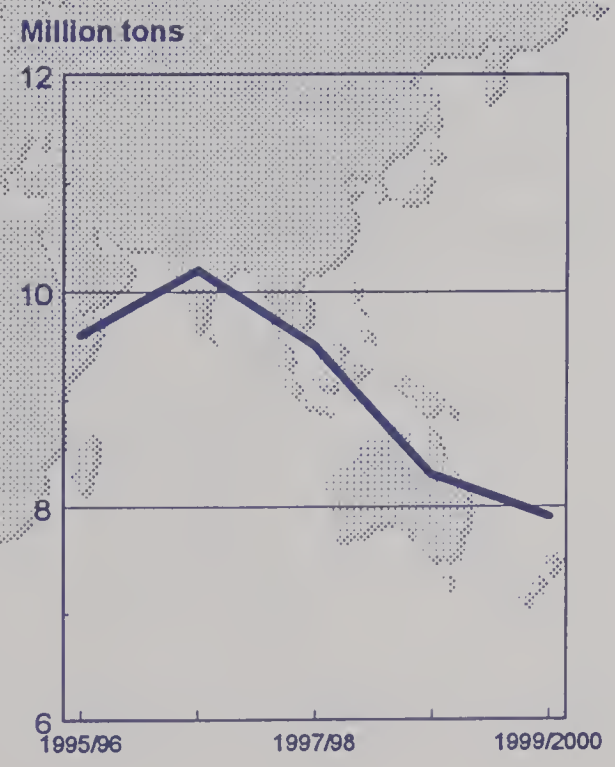


CHART14

Canada Wheat Output Rises

- Production up 0.6 MMT or 2 percent
- Yield increases
- Area virtually unchanged, but large swing out of durum to spring

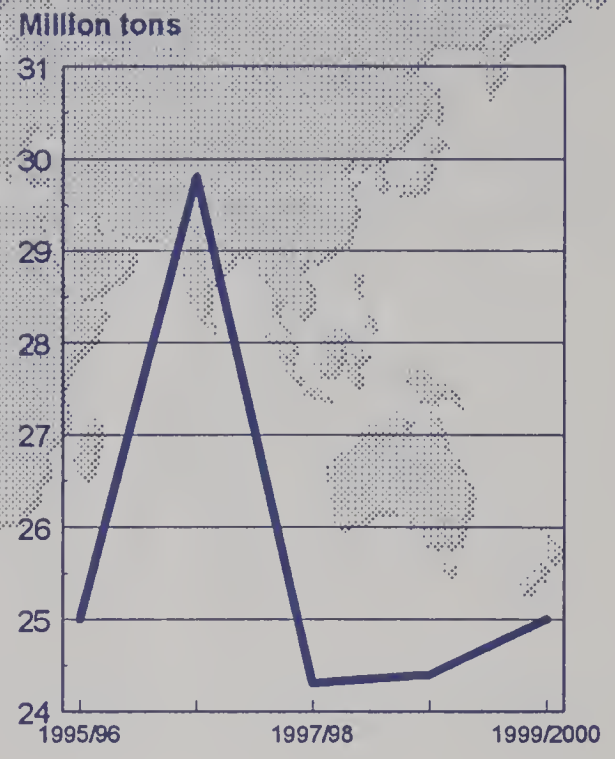


CHART15

Canada Coarse Grain Output Lower

- Production down 0.7 MMT or 2 percent
- Yield down slightly
- Area down slightly

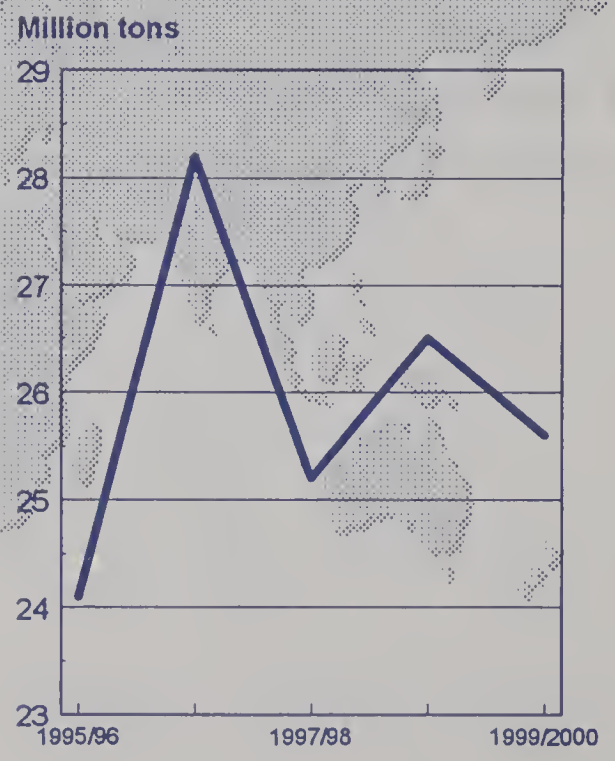


CHART16

Argentina Wheat Production Increases

- Production increases 1.2 MMT or 12 percent
- Yield up 3 percent
- Area up 9 percent

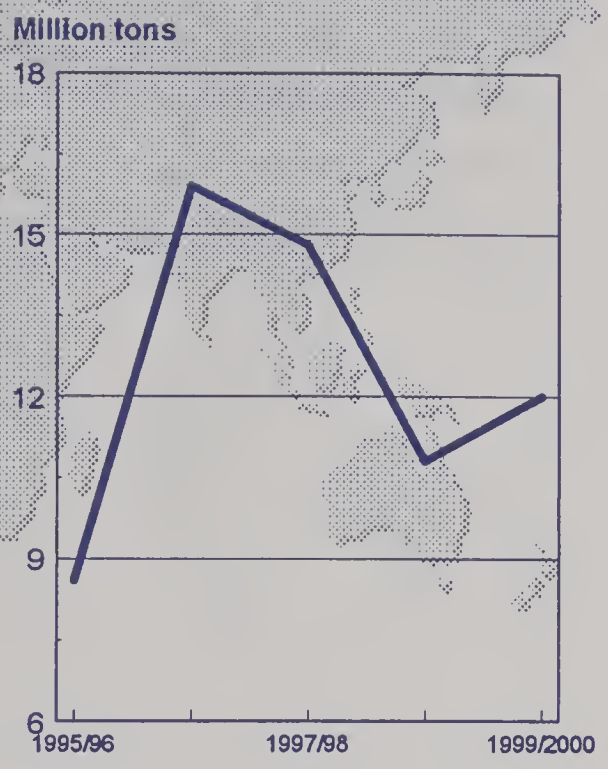


CHART17

Argentina Coarse Grain Output Rises

- Production increases 1.8 MMT or 10 percent
- Yield up marginally
- Area up 9 percent

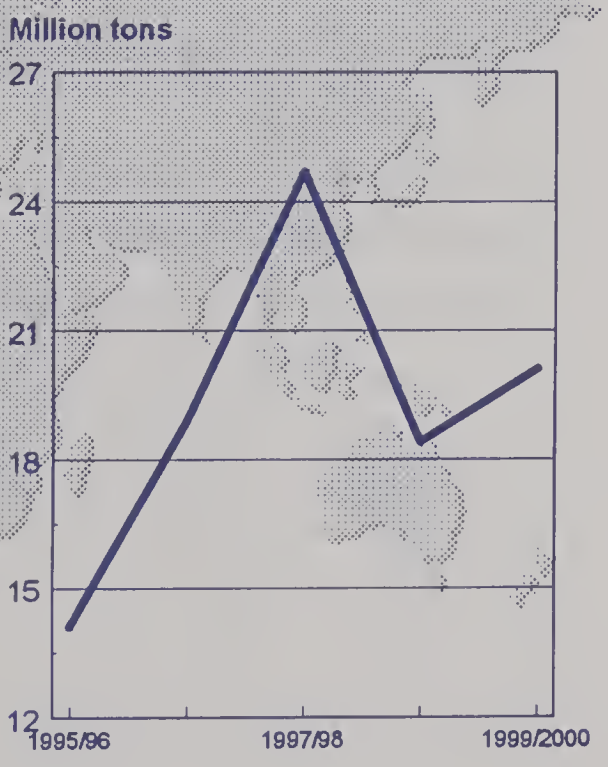


CHART18

China Wheat Output Declines

- Production down 4.0 MMT or 4 percent
- Yield down 4 pecent
- Area unchanged

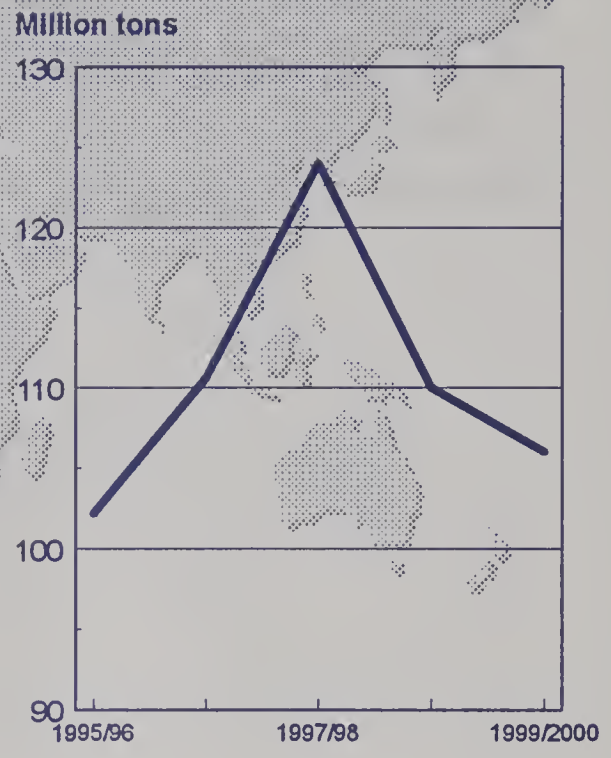


CHART19

China Coarse Grain Production Near Record

- Production up 5.5 MMT or 4 percent
- Yield up 2 percent
- Area up 2 percent
- Record corn production

CHART20

FSU-12 Wheat Output Increases

- Production increases 8.6 MMT or 15 percent
- Yield up 17 percent
- Area down 2 percent

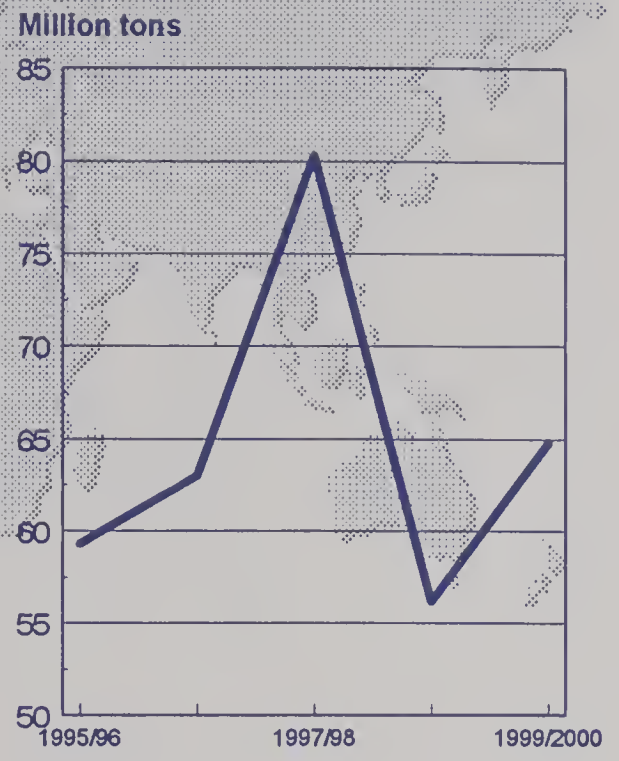


CHART21

FSU-12 Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Production increases 12.7 MMT or 33 percent
- Yield up 34 percent
- Area down marginally

CHART22

Mexico Wheat Output Slightly Higher

- Production up slightly
- Yield down 2 percent
- Area up marginally

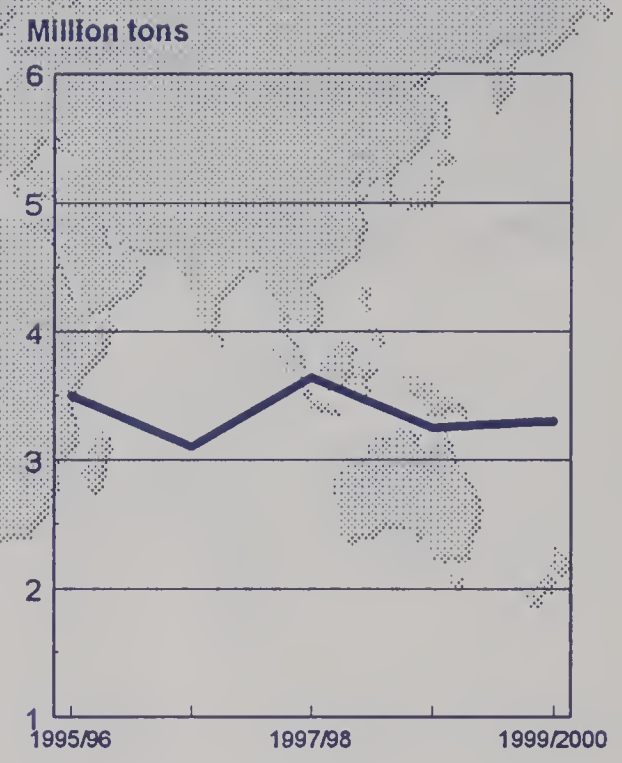


CHART23

Mexico Coarse Grain Output Higher

- Production up 0.4 MMT or 2 percent
- Yield marginally lower
- Area increases 2 percent

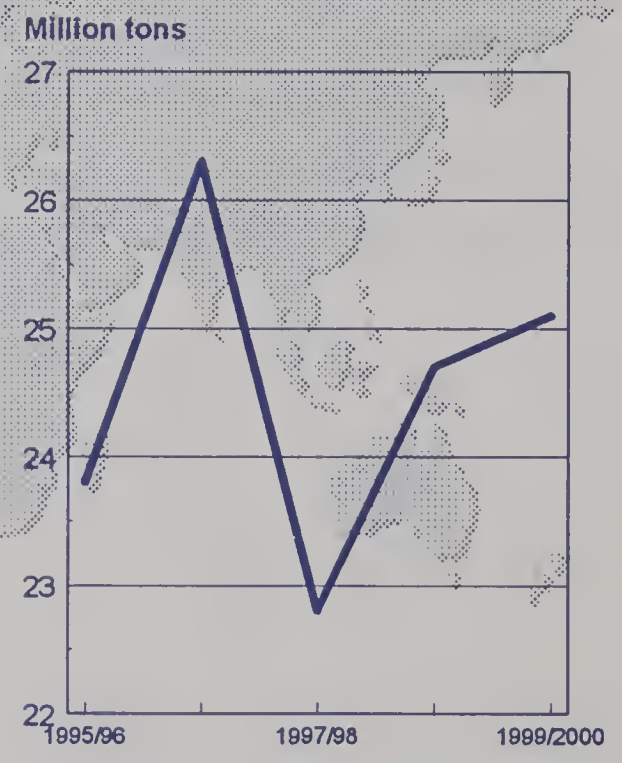


CHART24

Brazil Wheat Output Higher

- Production increases 0.3 MMT or 14 percent
- Yield up 5 percent
- Area up 8 percent

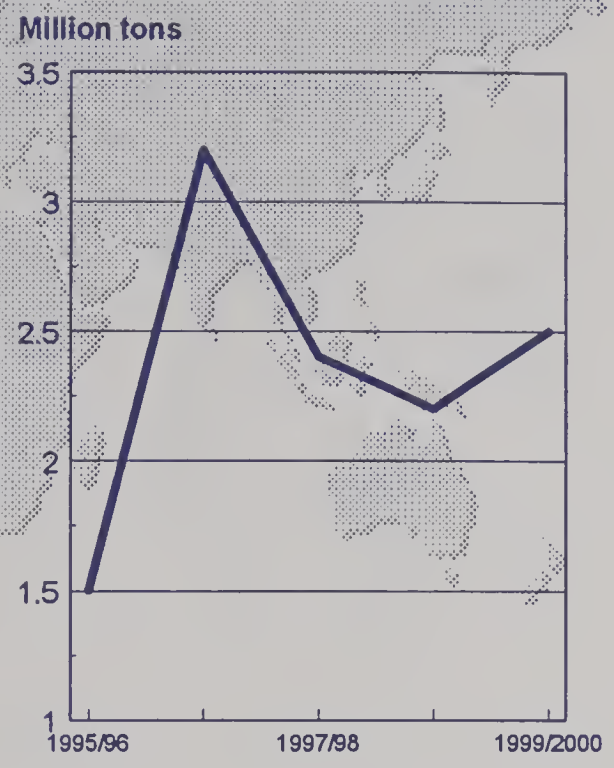


CHART25

Brazil Coarse Grain Output Rises

- Production up 0.3 MMT or 1 percent
- Yield slightly lower
- Area up 2 percent

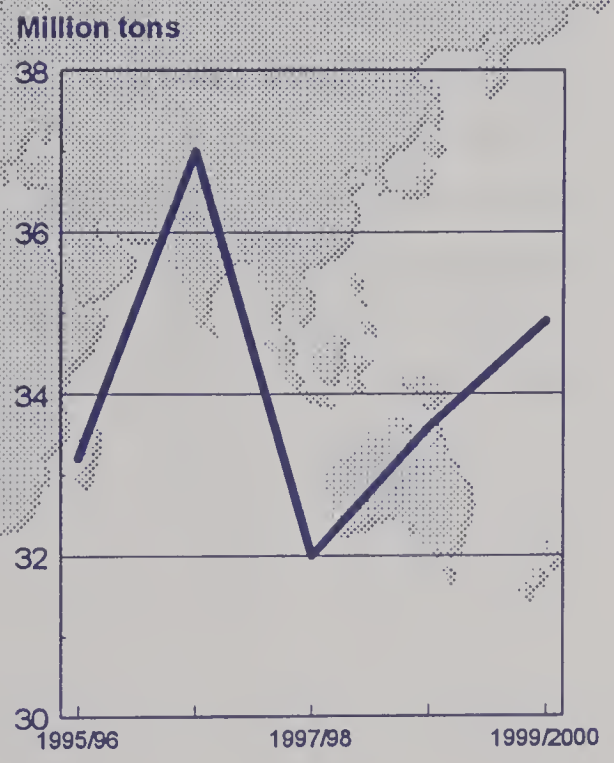


CHART26

Northwest Africa Wheat Output Lower

- Production decreases 1.3 MMT or 19 percent
- Yield down 8 percent
- Area down 11 percent
- Algeria and Tunisia output higher, Morocco lower

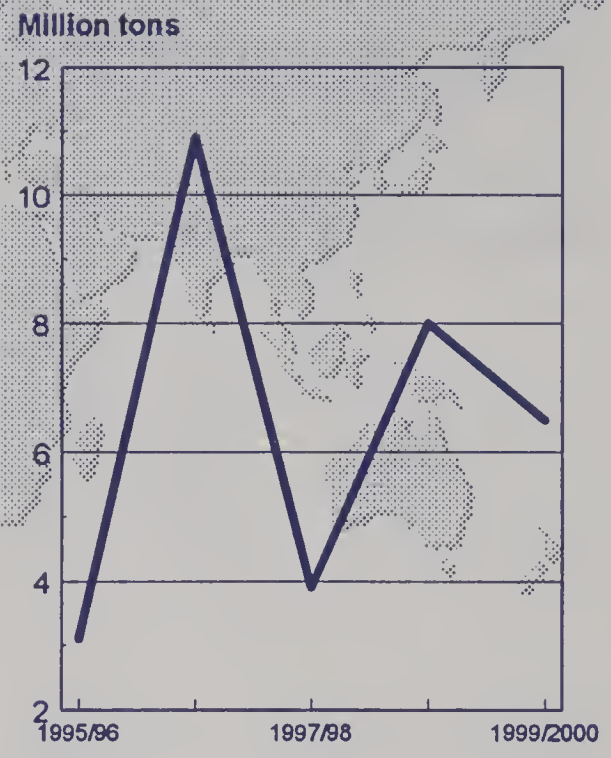


CHART27

Northwest Africa Coarse Grain Output Lower

- Production down 0.9 MMT or 26 percent
- Yield down 14 percent
- Area down 13 percent
- Algeria and Tunisia output higher, Morocco lower

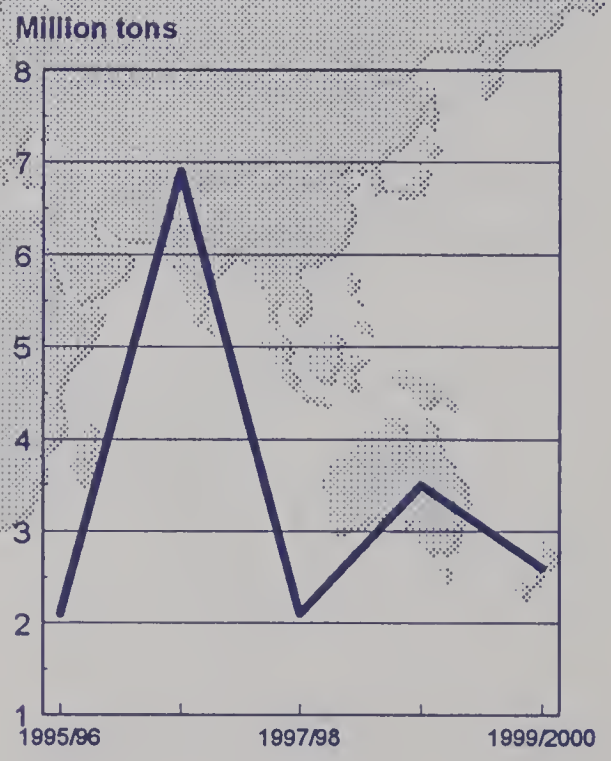


CHART28

Russia Wheat Output Increases

- Production increases 7.1 MMT or 26 percent
- Yield up 32 percent
- Area down 4 percent

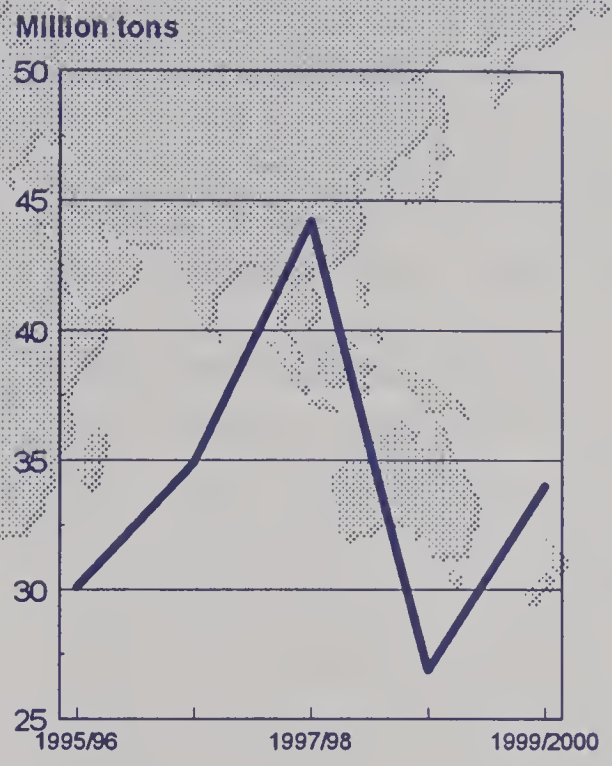
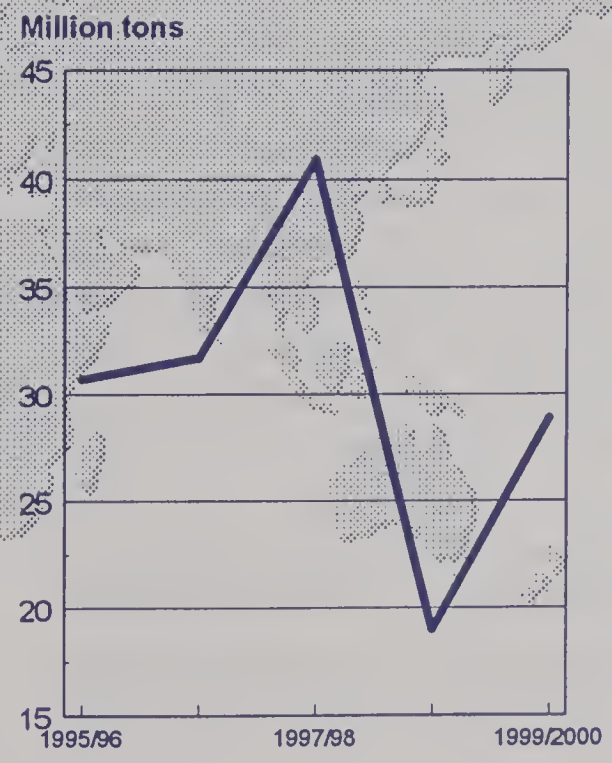


CHART29

Russia Coarse Grain Output Increases

- Production increases 10.0 MMT or 53 percent
- Yield up 51 percent
- Area up marginally



WORLD SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

World soybean production continued on its upward trend in 1998/99. Area, yield, and production estimates for the last decade can be seen in the tables following this article.

World soybean output for 1998/99 is estimated at a record 157.2 million tons, up 61.2 million or 64 percent from 1988/89. The increase has been fairly continuous with year-to-year increases occurring in 8 of 10 years through the last decade with some acceleration of growth occurring in more recent years for Argentina and the United States. For the decade, area harvested is up 26 percent and yield up 30 percent.

Rising yields may be attributable to a number of factors including: (1) improved protection for intellectual property rights for seed companies in some countries which has encouraged seed companies to develop and distribute improved varieties, (2) improved availability of inputs and a wider array of available pesticides, (3) improved seed varieties developed by traditional crossing, and Round-up Ready soybeans developed by genetic engineering, (4) changed government economic policies which improved incentives for producers to improve yields, and (5) greater use of sophisticated cultural practices, including no-till on easily erodible terrain. Rising soybean area may be attributable to changes in domestic, trade, and general economic policies which encouraged more investment in the agricultural arena through market deregulation and strengthening investor confidence in relying on market signals. In the United States, the "Freedom to Farm" legislation adopted in the mid-1990's and widespread adoption of cost reducing technologies for soybeans helped account for a sharp advance in U.S. planted area.

Soybean output in 1998/99 is up 0.5 million tons or less than 1 percent over 1997/98. The estimate for 1998/99 remains a preliminary number with the harvest still not complete in tropical and southern hemisphere countries, but it appears that less favorable weather in some countries will result in a decline of 1 percent in overall yield. Harvested area, however, is estimated to have increased by 2 percent.

For the 1999/00 crop, record high planting intentions were reported by farmers in the United States, but low world soybean prices are likely to be a negative influence on world output.

United States: Soybean production for the 1998/99 crop is estimated by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at a record 75.0 million tons, up 3 percent from 1997/98. Growing conditions were generally favorable in soybean growing regions, with reports of spotty or localized planting difficulties, dryness, and plant diseases. Yield in 1998/99, is estimated at 2.62 tons per hectare, virtually unchanged from 1997/98, but 6 percent lower than the record yield of 2.78 tons set in 1994/95. Though soybean prices were lower in early 1998 than they had been a year earlier, prices were favorable relative to alternative commodities. Consequently, area harvested reached a record 28.7 million hectares. In 1999/00, production is forecast at a record 75.0 million tons, up 3 percent from 1998/99. "Prospective Plantings," released March 31 by NASS, placed 1999/00 planting intentions at 29.6 million hectares, 1 percent higher than 1998/99.

Brazil: The 1998/99 soybean crop is estimated to be the second highest on record at 31.0 million tons, down 0.5 million or 2 percent from last year. Going into the 1998/99 season, farmers faced lower world commodity prices than they saw the previous year and were faced with high interest rates. Devaluation of the Brazilian currency in January was too late to affect planting decisions, but may help farmers financially. Dryness during February and March in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul reduced

prospects for a record crop. Nearly 90 percent of the crop was harvested by the end of April as conditions remained generally favorable for the completion of harvesting ahead of last year. Prospects for soybean plantings in 1999/00 will depend on soybean prices and prices of alternative crops prior to planting (October through December). Devaluation will favor expansion of production for agricultural commodities in general, but may favor production of import commodities such as cotton over soybeans.

Argentina: Soybean output for 1998/99 is estimated at 18.5 million tons, down 0.7 million or 4 percent from the record crop of 1997/98. At the beginning of the season, high relative prices favored soybean plantings over corn and wheat and resulted in soybean-area expansion. Harvested area for 1998/99 is estimated at 7.3 million hectares, up 4 percent from 1997/98. However, dryness during the growing season in parts of Buenos Aires, Cordoba, and Santa Fe Provinces hindered crop development and yield is estimated down 8 percent from last year. An unusual hard frost occurred April 17 in the northern Provinces of Chaco, Santiago del Estero and Santa Fe that caused damage to later maturing soybeans. Heavy rainfall (100-250 mm) during the period April 24 to 26 caused some localized flooding and damage to the crop in the Provinces of Santa Fe, eastern Cordoba, and northern La Pampa. The outlook for the 1999/00 crop will depend on the size of the Northern Hemisphere crop now being planted. Argentina, with its fixed exchange rate, will be at a disadvantage relative to Brazil by the devaluation of the Real.

Paraguay: Soybean production for 1998/99 is estimated at a record 3.2 million tons, up 0.2 million or 7 percent from last year's crop. Both area and yield increased over last season. Heavy fertilizer usage and increased direct seeding by farmers are key factors contributing to the record crop. The growing season was characterized by favorable weather conditions early, but dryness during late February to mid-March. Later, high temperatures prevailed during the critical flowering period reducing yield prospects in some areas. Heavy rainfall returned to the region towards the end of March delaying harvesting operations. Planting of the 1999/00 crop will take place from October to December 1999, and prospects will depend upon the size of the Northern Hemisphere crop.

China: Soybean output for 1998/99 is estimated at 13.8 million tons, down 6 percent from the previous year due to lower area and yield. Soybean area dropped by 4 percent to an estimated 8.0 million hectares as farmers responded to excessive stocks and low prices by reducing planted area and shifting to other crops, particularly in Northeast China. Yield is estimated at 1.73 tons per hectare, down slightly from 1997/98. The crop was adversely affected by flooding in the Northeast and parts of Central China during 1998, but favorable summer weather resulted in very good yields on the North China Plain. Prospects for the 1999/00 crop are being negatively affected by domestic oversupply and low prices. Planting weather has been good in Manchuria, but dry in the North China Plain.

India: Soybean production for 1998/99 is estimated at a record 5.5 million tons, up 3 percent from 1997/98. The high output is chiefly attributed to a record area of 6.1 million hectares and an above-average yield. Soybean area for 1998/99 is up 8 percent from last year. Yields from Madhya Pradesh (the largest soybean producing state) and Maharashtra were lower than expected due to delayed and inadequate rains. Prospects for the upcoming 1999/00 crop depend on the monsoon rains which normally begin in June.

Indonesia: Soybean production for 1998/99 is forecast at 1.3 million tons, similar to 1997/98, but down from 1.5 million tons in 1996/97. Harvested area in 1998/99 is estimated at 1.1 million hectares, similar to 1997/98. Yield is estimated at a near record 1.21 tons per hectare, maintaining the upward yield trend of the past

decade. Many farmers planted rice this year instead of soybeans, as rains in 1997/98 were sufficient to grow rice in more fields than usual. Rice remains more profitable to grow compared to soybeans which require more pesticides and fertilizer. A significant amount of the 1999/00 crop will be grown in the dry season starting in June 2000, and prospects will depend upon economic and weather conditions at that time.

Canada: Soybean production for 1998/99 is estimated at 2.7 million tons, virtually unchanged from last year's record crop. Area harvested decreased by 8 percent to 980,000 hectares in 1998/99, but was still the second highest on record. Soybean yield was the highest ever, allowing Canada to match last year's record crop despite the drop in area. More than 23 percent of Canada's 1998/99 production will be going abroad, as exports through the first six months of the current marketing year were already over 50 percent greater than the comparable period last year. Planting intentions for the 1999/00 soybean crop are slightly higher than the area seeded for the 1998/99 crop.

Most of the crop is grown in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, where soil moisture has been good throughout winter and early spring.

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TABLE 21

WORLD SOYBEAN AREA

(1,000 Hectares)

	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Argentina	4,000	4,950	4,750	4,800	4,900	5,400	5,700	5,980	6,200	6,954	7,300
Australia	71	49	40	29	32	39	17	32	39	52	50
Austria	6	9	9	15	53	54	47	14	13	15	20
Bolivia	144	173	195	193	240	330	393	445	530	535	540
Brazil	12,150	11,550	9,750	9,700	10,625	11,440	11,680	10,950	11,800	13,000	12,900
Bulgaria	40	40	17	10	11	21	9	15	16	6	9
Burma	36	35	33	34	38	40	53	60	72	69	69
Canada	533	540	484	598	623	720	820	824	860	1,060	980
China	8,120	8,034	7,560	7,041	7,221	9,454	9,222	8,127	7,470	8,346	8,000
Colombia	93	112	100	47	53	57	45	36	35	35	35
Ecuador	62	60	57	58	58	81	90	75	32	5	8
Egypt	50	39	41	42	22	18	23	26	15	13	18
France	92	135	117	62	41	55	100	100	85	97	100
Guatemala	13	13	15	20	26	15	14	15	16	18	18
Hungary	66	54	33	25	28	16	12	10	12	13	18
India	1,734	2,253	2,564	3,185	3,627	4,250	4,025	4,817	5,000	5,600	6,100
Indonesia	1,177	1,205	1,275	1,555	1,470	1,407	1,477	1,280	1,180	1,090	1,075
Iran	50	50	50	50	50	85	86	87	87	87	87
Italy	432	477	521	413	355	170	198	172	231	338	410
Japan	162	152	146	141	110	87	61	69	82	83	109
Korea, North	340	340	340	340	340	340	340	320	325	325	325
Korea, South	145	157	152	119	105	117	122	105	98	100	98
Mexico	139	468	276	340	305	238	288	133	52	128	89
Moldova	39	37	27	20	25	25	20	10	5	2	2
Nigeria	55	68	75	468	513	543	593	620	659	650	650
Paraguay	850	980	890	900	980	1,050	1,100	1,100	1,200	1,200	1,250
Romania	340	512	190	108	166	77	64	73	80	61	140
Russia	598	651	675	664	645	625	577	485	485	404	440
South Africa	44	61	87	83	45	55	65	68	87	125	135
Thailand	392	502	408	318	343	343	342	284	256	260	270
Turkey	60	100	60	50	50	40	50	45	40	30	25
Ukraine	76	105	88	102	97	70	43	23	25	14	20
United States	23,218	24,094	22,870	23,477	23,566	23,191	24,609	24,906	25,637	27,968	28,656
Vietnam	103	100	110	101	97	120	132	121	110	100	100
Yugoslavia	110	88	91	63	95	83	77	67	94	80	120
Zambia	32	38	39	35	32	32	32	25	25	15	25
Zimbabwe	71	68	58	45	32	52	71	59	60	64	60
Others	149	141	140	111	117	84	74	73	66	65	73
WORLD TOTAL	55,792	58,440	54,333	55,362	57,136	60,824	62,671	61,651	63,079	69,007	70,324

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division

TABLE 22

WORLD SOYBEAN YIELD

(Metric tons per hectare)

	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Argentina	1.625	2.172	2.421	2.323	2.316	2.296	2.193	2.079	1.806	2.761	2.534
Australia	1.817	1.571	1.550	2.172	1.594	2.103	2.000	2.281	2.154	1.788	2.000
Austria	2.000	1.111	1.889	2.467	1.736	2.315	2.234	2.214	2.077	2.200	2.500
Bolivia	2.042	1.329	2.010	1.596	2.138	2.227	2.061	2.022	1.962	2.002	2.037
Brazil	1.942	1.761	1.615	1.990	2.118	2.159	2.217	2.205	2.314	2.423	2.403
Bulgaria	1.000	1.000	0.882	1.900	1.818	0.762	1.000	1.000	0.625	1.000	0.889
Burma	0.778	0.800	0.788	0.794	0.789	0.800	0.792	0.833	0.917	0.899	0.899
Canada	2.163	2.257	2.607	2.441	2.335	2.571	2.745	2.783	2.517	2.583	2.793
China	1.434	1.273	1.455	1.379	1.426	1.619	1.735	1.661	1.770	1.765	1.725
Colombia	1.903	1.893	1.940	2.043	2.132	1.912	2.089	2.056	2.000	2.171	2.171
Ecuador	1.645	1.667	1.754	1.724	1.379	1.765	2.156	1.133	1.250	1.400	1.875
Egypt	2.600	2.333	2.585	2.857	2.682	2.778	2.913	2.462	2.600	2.692	2.611
France	2.478	2.222	2.111	2.339	1.610	2.364	2.600	2.600	2.706	2.887	2.800
Guatemala	2.154	2.462	2.467	2.450	2.462	3.067	2.857	2.933	2.688	2.667	2.667
Hungary	1.576	2.148	1.333	2.320	1.393	1.563	1.917	2.000	2.333	2.308	2.222
India	0.892	0.802	1.015	0.782	0.856	0.941	0.804	0.929	0.820	0.955	0.902
Indonesia	1.092	1.091	1.098	1.125	1.156	1.112	1.137	1.185	1.237	1.198	1.209
Iran	1.800	1.800	1.800	1.800	1.800	1.529	1.535	1.540	1.540	1.540	1.540
Italy	3.259	3.405	3.361	3.196	3.000	3.182	3.293	3.709	3.771	3.678	3.415
Japan	1.710	1.789	1.507	1.397	1.709	1.161	1.623	1.725	1.805	1.747	1.450
Korea, North	1.294	1.294	1.294	1.294	1.176	1.176	1.176	1.250	1.292	1.292	1.292
Korea, South	1.648	1.605	1.533	1.538	1.676	1.453	1.262	1.524	1.633	1.560	1.429
Mexico	2.158	2.103	2.054	2.112	1.875	2.088	1.816	1.429	1.173	1.477	1.607
Moldova	1.359	1.378	0.889	1.000	1.400	1.200	0.800	0.800	1.000	1.500	1.500
Nigeria	1.000	0.882	0.867	0.310	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.310	0.320	0.308	0.308
Paraguay	1.900	1.607	1.461	1.444	1.786	1.714	2.000	2.182	2.309	2.494	2.560
Romania	1.000	0.594	0.742	1.657	0.759	1.234	1.438	1.479	1.438	1.984	1.429
Russia	1.129	1.134	1.062	0.940	0.783	0.795	0.730	0.598	0.575	0.693	0.682
South Africa	1.591	1.770	1.448	0.819	1.356	1.309	0.892	1.176	1.379	1.576	1.407
Thailand	1.319	1.339	1.299	1.368	1.399	1.399	1.316	1.296	1.406	1.250	1.296
Turkey	1.167	1.200	2.000	1.800	1.800	1.750	1.800	1.667	1.625	1.333	1.600
Ukraine	1.329	1.181	1.125	1.324	0.784	0.857	0.698	1.304	0.800	1.286	1.000
United States	1.816	2.173	2.292	2.303	2.530	2.194	2.781	2.376	2.527	2.616	2.618
Vietnam	0.825	0.820	0.791	0.792	0.825	0.883	0.947	1.041	1.036	1.030	1.050
Yugoslavia	1.636	2.375	1.670	2.460	1.484	1.542	1.701	2.149	2.064	2.463	2.125
Zambia	1.063	0.947	1.154	0.857	1.094	1.094	1.094	1.600	1.160	0.800	1.400
Zimbabwe	1.704	1.765	1.672	0.933	2.344	1.942	1.085	1.864	1.667	1.578	1.500
Others	1.282	1.525	1.500	1.450	1.547	1.452	1.676	1.630	1.727	1.738	1.575
WORLD TOTAL	1.721	1.836	1.918	1.939	2.055	1.937	2.197	2.026	2.096	2.271	2.235

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division

TABLE 23

WORLD SOYBEAN PRODUCTION

(1,000 Metric tons)

	1988/89	1989/90	1990/91	1991/92	1992/93	1993/94	1994/95	1995/96	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99
Argentina	6,500	10,750	11,500	11,150	11,350	12,400	12,500	12,430	11,200	19,200	18,500
Australia	129	77	62	63	51	82	34	73	84	93	100
Austria	12	10	17	37	92	125	105	31	27	33	50
Bolivia	294	230	392	308	513	735	810	900	1,040	1,071	1,100
Brazil	23,600	20,340	15,750	19,300	22,500	24,700	25,900	24,150	27,300	31,500	31,000
Bulgaria	40	40	15	19	20	16	9	15	10	6	8
Burma	28	28	26	27	30	32	42	50	66	62	62
Canada	1,153	1,219	1,262	1,460	1,455	1,851	2,251	2,293	2,165	2,738	2,737
China	11,645	10,227	11,000	9,710	10,300	15,310	16,000	13,500	13,220	14,728	13,800
Colombia	177	212	194	96	113	109	94	74	70	76	76
Ecuador	102	100	100	100	80	143	194	85	40	7	15
Egypt	130	91	106	120	59	50	67	64	39	35	47
France	228	300	247	145	66	130	260	260	230	280	280
Guatemala	28	32	37	49	64	46	40	44	43	48	48
Hungary	104	116	44	58	39	25	23	20	28	30	40
India	1,547	1,806	2,602	2,492	3,106	4,000	3,236	4,476	4,100	5,350	5,500
Indonesia	1,285	1,315	1,400	1,750	1,700	1,565	1,680	1,517	1,460	1,306	1,300
Iran	90	90	90	90	90	130	132	134	134	134	134
Italy	1,408	1,624	1,751	1,320	1,065	541	652	638	871	1,243	1,400
Japan	277	272	220	197	188	101	99	119	148	145	158
Korea, North	440	440	440	440	400	400	400	400	420	420	420
Korea, South	239	252	233	183	176	170	154	160	160	156	140
Mexico	300	984	567	718	572	497	523	190	61	189	143
Moldova	53	51	24	20	35	30	16	8	5	3	3
Nigeria	55	60	65	145	154	163	178	192	211	200	200
Paraguay	1,615	1,575	1,300	1,300	1,750	1,800	2,200	2,400	2,771	2,993	3,200
Romania	340	304	141	179	126	95	92	108	115	121	200
Russia	675	738	717	624	505	497	421	290	279	280	300
South Africa	70	108	126	68	61	72	58	80	120	197	190
Thailand	517	672	530	435	480	480	450	368	360	325	350
Turkey	70	120	120	90	90	70	90	75	65	40	40
Ukraine	101	124	99	135	76	60	30	30	20	18	20
United States	42,153	52,354	52,416	54,065	59,612	50,885	68,444	59,174	64,780	73,176	75,028
Vietnam	85	82	87	80	80	106	125	126	114	103	105
Yugoslavia	180	209	152	155	141	128	131	144	194	197	255
Zambia	34	36	45	30	35	35	35	40	29	12	35
Zimbabwe	121	120	97	42	75	101	77	110	100	101	90
Others	191	215	210	161	181	122	124	119	114	113	115
WORLD TOTAL	96,016	107,323	104,184	107,361	117,430	117,802	137,676	124,887	132,193	156,729	157,189

May 1999

Production Estimates and Crop Assessment Division

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